

British politics a 'cauldron'

Bush to end US coolness to Kinnock

From Peter Stothard, US Editor, Washington

PRESIDENT Bush signalled yesterday that the days of deliberate White House hostility to the British Labour Party could be over.

In an interview with *The Times* he expressed his confidence that good relations between the United States and Britain would continue if there were a future Labour government.

"If we do have a special relationship, it will continue, I'm sure," he said.

Asked about President Reagan's cold, brief reception of Mr Neil Kinnock in the past, Mr Bush said that when "the opposition leaders come here, we will see them. That's the way it should be."

This week his senior officials will meet the shadow Chancellor Mr John Smith, who is testing the water for a possible visit to Washington by the Labour leader later this year.

Speaking at his desk in the Oval Office, the President referred to politics in Britain as a bubbling cauldron, but he made it clear that he did not share the view of the American press that the Prime Minister was necessarily on her way out because of Labour's 17-point lead.

He called her a "courageous and principled leader who has survived many defeats and ups and downs and who gets credit for her special feelings about the US across the board in this country."

"What is Daniel Ortega's pollster doing now?" he asked.

"What is the pollster doing who had me 17 points behind in 1988? I don't think that you do business with heads of government on the basis of polls."

After his weekend meeting with Mrs Thatcher in Bermuda, he expressed the hope that she now "has a better feeling for the US stance on many issues". Reiterating his view yesterday that "the concept of German unity does not cause me worry", he admitted that there were "nuances of difference on that one".

There had been some very good exchanges, he said, but American officials made clear that there had been no coming together of the divergent British and American positions on South African sanctions and the Vietnamese boat people.

The President revealed for the first time that there had been some discussion at Bermuda of the Trident missile system which Labour, unlike the Government, wants to put into international arms control negotiations. He emphasized that Mrs Thatcher did not have to persuade him of the importance of maintaining the British and French deterrents.

Mr Bush admitted that he had not given thought to the details of Labour policy, but Mr Kinnock and his team will be encouraged by the sense of a more open door to the White House than they experienced under Mr Reagan.

The President was confident and light-hearted as he looked out at the scenes of children enjoying the traditional "egg roll" on his lawn. Later this week he will follow his Bermuda talks with Canadian Prime Minister Mr Brian Mulroney by going to meet President Mitterrand in Florida. "Two-thirds down and one to go," he said before going out into the sunshine.

In response to questions about the difficult recent relations between the US and France, he gave the characteristic presidential answer that "if there is drift and separation, the best thing to do is to sit down and talk".

They would discuss the increased role of the EC in

European security and Mr Mitterrand's "keen interest" in the role of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The two leaders had no "aggressive" differences, but he rejected the idea of a French commander for a new Nato integrated command.

He said he was happy with the present arrangements. While not wanting to appear "chauvinistic", he said the American people had to feel wanted in Europe and the presence of a US commander helped that. He had "given no thought to change".

He was bullish about future prospects overall. "I do not believe the elitist theories about the decline of the US," he said. "The people don't believe it. Our allies don't believe it."

President Bush believed the US was "positioned about right" to respond to the crisis in Lithuania, but it was still "a little premature, hypothetical, to discuss exactly what we might do".

He felt comfortable that after his recent discussions with President Gorbachev and the Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Union knew of the American concern for peaceful evolution.

The White House was waiting for news of whether Mr Gorbachev would carry out his threat of an economic blockade. "We have obviously been reviewing all our options over the last several weeks," the President's spokesman Mr Martin Fitzwater said, "but we believe the best plan of action is not to speculate on what course of action we might take".

The President's cautious approach was endorsed by the Senate Democratic leader Mr George Mitchell, who returned on Saturday from a visit to Moscow.

He said that Soviet escalation of the conflict could threaten planned improvements in trade relations, and a lot of other things, but accepted that "we ought not to be announcing in advance what we are going to do when we don't know for sure what they're going to do".



Cheering in the rain: The ecstatic crowd welcomes Mr Mandela to Wembley

Mandela chides Thatcher

By Lin Jenkins

MR NELSON Mandela, the African National Congress leader, chose his welcome back concert in London to attack the Government's decision to end sanctions.

Without naming Mrs Thatcher or the British Government he said that only those who supported apartheid would argue that the Pretoria Government should be rewarded for the "small" steps it had taken.

His speech, which marked the highlight of a pop-meets-politics spectacle at Wembley Stadium, was largely a non-political message of thanks to those who had fought for his release from 27 years imprisonment.

But he appealed to the 72,000-strong crowd: "Reject any suggestion that the campaign to isolate the apartheid system should be wound down. It is only those who support apartheid who can argue that the Pretoria Government

should be rewarded for the small steps it has taken, such as our release, the unbanning of the ANC and other organizations."

He made a more direct reference to Mrs Thatcher when he echoed the words she used on the steps of No 10 following news of his release and the unbanning of the ANC. She declared then: "We believe in carrots as well as sticks. We have had plenty of the latter, we should now have some of the former."

Mr Mandela told the crowd: "There are some in the world who would wish to support the South African Government by giving it rewards and carrots. But we, representing the overwhelming majority of the people of our country, turn to you for support, which we need more than ever."

He said it was the dream of millions to see Mandela free.

Continued on page 20, col 3

NUT strike call 'shows Militant influence'

By David Tytler, Education Editor

BRITAIN'S largest teaching union, the 190,000-strong National Union of Teachers, appeared last night to be locked in a battle between moderates and the Militant Tendency.

A vote in favour of national strikes against the Government's education reforms and trade union law was passed in defiance of the union's executive.

Also against the wishes of the executive, the union is poised to mount a campaign to boycott compulsory testing of children as part of the National Curriculum.

Mr Doug McAvoy, the union's new general secretary, said that the vote in favour of national strikes - carried by 104,832 to 77,887 - to support teachers who lost their jobs as a result of poll-tax capping or the self management of schools was a victory for Militant.

The union's national executive had argued that secondary strikes would be illegal and would risk the union funds being sequestered.

Mr McAvoy said the executive would try to defeat the motion when it is debated this morning.

Mr McAvoy said that the March 23 edition of the *Militant* newspaper had claimed it had been instrumental in framing the agenda for the union's annual conference, being held in Bournemouth.

He said: "They wish to have a head-on collision with the Government over trade union law and they are more interested in that than protecting their members. The vote is a defeat for moderates in the union and a victory for Militant."

Mr McAvoy's claims were denied by two hard-left members of the executive.

Mr Bernard Regan, a London teacher, said: "The idea that it is Militant is absolute rubbish. It reflects a broad base of concern at the situation caused by the local management of schools. It is a gross insult to members to suggest that you can manipulate a conference."

Mr Ian Murch, of Bradford, who opposed the motion said: "We have reached the level of red baiting, scaremongering and bad and cowardly advice."

Mr McAvoy, however, insisted that secondary action could result in the sequestration of union funds as had

happened to other unions including the National Union of Miners and the print unions. He said: "The Government's trade union laws can be used to raid our resources by taking our funds and preventing the union from protecting its members with strike action where that is needed."

He said: "It is already clear that the union will be able to persuade members to take action outside the law."

Mr Murch told the 1,400 delegates that national industrial action was likely to be the only way to support teachers who lost their jobs as a result of self management or poll tax capping.

He said that the combined effect of these measures threatened many teachers with compulsory redundancy at the end of this school year in authorities such as Barnsley, Bradford, Cambridgeshire, Nottinghamshire and Oldham."

In the National Curriculum debate, a series of speakers urged a boycott of testing at seven, 11 and 14.

Miss Jo Lang of Camden, north London, said: "The Tories are now poking their grubby fingers into our classrooms."

She said that the National Curriculum would narrow education and lead to further divisions in the classroom instead of reflecting the multi-national nature of British society.

Miss Lang added: "This government won't listen to fine words. Now is the time for action on strikes."

Miss Karen Massey, of Islington, north London, said that an anti-racist element explaining the exploitative nature of the British Empire should be introduced into the curriculum.

Teachers should "refuse to teach the glories of Cecil Rhodes". She said: "We are being asked to do things we do not believe in. We need to have theoretical objections."

Mr Ian Morgan, a member of the National Executive, urged the conference not to support a boycott of testing. He said: "Teachers have a duty to the children to see they are well prepared and well counselled for the test."

Members voted by 85,590 to 80,298 to consider a campaign of boycotts.

Leading article, page 13

Slowdown in retail sales

The unexpected recovery in the growth of retail sales in the high street, which cast a shadow over Mr John Major's first Budget, appears to have come to an abrupt end.

A survey from the Confederation of British Industry shows that sales growth subsided again in March, leaving shops and wholesalers with unsold stocks. Page 21

Times Diary

The Times Diary is relaunched today and reveals that Mrs Thatcher has resumed high-level relations with the Chinese Government less than one year after the Tiananmen Square massacre. The new diary, edited by Nigel Williamson, will appear six days a week. Page 12

'Pravda' attack

A front-page leading article in *Pravda* yesterday said the party had to defend itself from "extremist elements". It strongly attacked radicals who have won control of many cities, demanding they leave the party rather than divide it. Page 9

Popular Bush

President Bush, already rated highly by white Americans, is also the most popular Republican leader with black Americans since Eisenhower 30 years ago, opinion polls show. Page 9

Leeds victory

Leeds United beat their Yorkshire rivals, Sheffield United, 4-0 in the Football League second division to take a clear advantage in the hunt for promotion. Page 36

Irish triumph

Desert Orchid survived a dramatic last-fence blunder before winning the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse yesterday. Page 30

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Marketeer Smith woos Americans

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

MR JOHN Smith, the shadow Chancellor, yesterday vigorously defended the markets and pledged a pragmatic approach to public spending as he took Labour's campaign to win economists' confidence to the United States.

He promised that under a Labour government there would be "no dash for growth", reiterated support for full membership of the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System, and emphasized his commitment to the mixed economy.

Mr Smith told the American-European Community Association that he wanted to "explode a myth" that Labour was determined to destroy the market, and highlighted the changes in Labour's economic policies since 1987.

He also insisted that

American participation in Europe would be as valuable as it had ever been.

During his three-day visit, Mr Smith will outline Labour policies at meetings at the Treasury, State Department, and with financial bodies.



Mr John Smith: Exploding myths on the market

Test match defeat for England

ENGLAND lost the fifth and final Test against West Indies in Antigua yesterday when they were bowled out in their second innings for 154 runs. Their defeat, by an innings and 32 runs, gave the West Indies a 2-1 series victory.

Ambrose, who took eight wickets for 45 in West Indies' victory in Bridgetown last week, again bowled well, taking four for 22, while Bishop took three for 36.

Match report, page 36

Lithuania plays down Soviet blockade threat

From Anatole Lieven, Vilnius

LITHUANIAN leaders yesterday were trying hard to play down the size of Moscow's threat to cut off the republic's supplies of raw materials.

Speaking to the press last night, President Landsbergis said that "so far we have no indication that supplies will be cut off".

If a physical blockade were, however, imposed, President Landsbergis said, "I wonder if Western countries would not respond?"

There has been discussion here of the possibility of appealing to the United Nations Security Council to declare Lithuania a "disaster area".

The letter sent to President Gorbachev by Mrs Kazimiera Prunskiene, the Lithuanian Prime Minister, yesterday said that the dimensions of Soviet Lithuanian relations were "much wider" than points mentioned in Mr Gorbachev's message threatening sanctions.

Vilnius counter action, page 8

Honouring Mad Pate's gift to civilization

By Kerry Gill

NEXT month an international festival will mark the achievement of a Dumfries blacksmith known as "Mad Pate" who, as the formerly unused inventor of the bicycle, is credited with putting the world on two wheels.

In his suitably 150 years ago, Kirkcubright Macmillan, also known as "The Devil on Wheels", transformed the crude hobby-horse into a simple bicycle through the intricate use of cranks and rods.

Enthusiasts from as far apart as Keir Mill in Dumfries and Galloway, the hamlet where he was a blacksmith, and America, claim that Macmillan's bike was the world's first.

The festival will be held in the grounds of the Duke of Buccleuch's Drumlanrig Castle, near Thornhill, just five miles from Macmillan's

smithy at Keir. Several days of events will commemorate the 'bicycle' inventor, who died almost unknown.

Macmillan was given his "Devil" nickname after developing the hobby-horse - a wooden bar with saddle and wheels propelled by the rider pushing his feet along the ground - into a pedalled machine. Locals gazed in wonder as the blacksmith perfected his contraption on the muddy lanes around the hamlet.

He probably won his second nickname, "Mad Pate", when he chose to demonstrate his invention by riding it 60 miles to Glasgow, a considerable feat in the days before pneumatic tyres and metalled roads.

The sight of Mad Pate trundling through villages caused a sensation. In the confusion a girl was knocked down by the pioneer cyclist, and he was subsequently fined five shillings

(25p) by a local magistrate who was, however, so intrigued by the machine that he is said to have asked for a demonstration. The invention so impressed him that he promptly refunded Mad Pate's five shillings from his own pocket.

Macmillan died in 1878 without having received full credit for his role in the history of transport, but the festival, called KM150, will make some amends.

The organizer, Mr John Pinkerton, a cycle historian and restorer, said: "Cycle enthusiasts from all over the world are coming, including groups from Australia, America, Czechoslovakia and other European countries."

The festival will begin on May 29 with an international rally of ancient cycles. The World High-Bicycle Championships will take place in

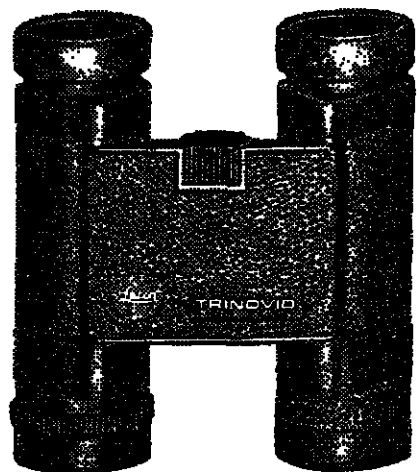
three stages - at Holyrood Park, Edinburgh, Kelvin Way, Glasgow, and in the grounds of Drumlanrig Castle. There will be a wooden-wheeled bike ride from Glasgow to Drumlanrig, retracing Macmillan's epic journey, in which two replicas of his bicycles, made at Dumfries Technical College, will be ridden.

Mr Pinkerton is looking for a long-legged Scots girl to compete in the high-bicycle championships, which are open to both sexes.

"So far, no Scots girls have put there names forward," he said. "They will have to be at least 5ft 9in to reach the pedals, but we'll give them special training and provide the bikes."

He hopes they will provide a challenge to Gill Head, from Tasmania, Australia, the women's world champion, who won her title last year in Japan.

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The freedom to see.

Mandela concert unlikely to yield cash for charities

By Lin Jenkins

THE speed with which the Nelson Mandela concert was staged could mean a struggle to break even.

The massive costs incurred in mounting the production — even with artists performing free — are expected to match the income from ticket sales, television rights and merchandising.

The organizers maintained yesterday that the event was never billed as a fund-raising venture, but as one that would provide "an international platform for Nelson Mandela to speak to the people of the world".

Tribute Productions staged the show on behalf of the International Reception Committee whose convenor, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, invited Mr Mandela to

Britain. It estimates that costs could be as high as those for the much bigger Nelson Mandela 70th birthday concert in 1988, which made a £1.2 million profit.

One of the key concerns of those managing the budget is that American broadcasting companies have shown little interest.

Mr David Tyler, vice-president of worldwide sales for Radiovision, the company selling television rights, said yesterday: "The concert has not generated as much interest as we had hoped. So far, sales to 40 countries have netted £1 million and we are hoping to clear 50 or 55 by selling the taped version."

"The very top we could hope to make is £1.5 million. We are unhappy not to have

cleared the US. But it is a difficult matter. They seem to think Mandela has had enough publicity and he is not news now that he has been released. We sold the 1988 concert to Fox to put out live, but this time we will obviously only be selling the taped version. That, I hope, will still make between a quarter and half a million dollars."

He added that Radiovision was charging a reduced rate for the service: "We do these shows because they are charity shows."

While Radiovision is marketing the show as a charity event, Tribute Productions insists that charities will benefit only in the event of a profit.

It expects to raise £1.4 million from the 72,000 tickets at £20 each and an estimated £150,000 from T-shirts, programmes and badges.

Mr Tony Hollingsworth, the show's producer, said: "We do not yet know what the production budget is, but the figures will be published as soon as we have them. There is nothing sinister about it as some people have suggested."

"This is an awareness event, not a charity event. Production costs are high because everything was done in 54 days. If we had had longer, the costs could have been cut."

The cost of hiring Wembley stadium is about £100,000, and lighting, sound, transport, security and administration costs are likely to total about £3 million.

Organizers also have to pay Wembley for the 12,000 stewards and the in-house electricians and engineers who have been helping an outside team of 150 engineers for the past week. Lighting for a show of such a scale can cost anywhere between £200,000 and £1 million.

Sponsorship has been difficult to find in such a short time, and companies who gave services free to Bob Geldof's Live Aid concert are less susceptible to the idea now that charity concerts are abundant.

However, the *Daily Mirror* and *The European* have contributed to the transport and accommodation costs of the Mandela party and paid for the stage and set. The Hard Rock Cafe is providing catering back stage.

Any profit will be divided between Christian Aid, Oxfam, Save the Children Fund, the Catholic Aid Fund for Overseas Development, the International Defence and Aid Trust and the Bishop Ambrose Reeves Trust.

Miss Muscles takes the strain for a seventh win

BURRY GREENWOOD



Driving rain did not stop Miss Janine Burns romping past the winning post in Britain's least ladylike contest yesterday at the world coal carrying championship in the West Yorkshire village of Gawthorpe.

Miss Burns, aged 23, left strong men staring in disbelief when, straining under a 20kg weight, she won the

race in double quick time. The physical training instructor with the Royal Navy, from Fareham, Hampshire, did not look back as she sprinted the 300 metre course in just over a minute to win her seventh consecutive title.

"I don't know why I keep entering it. I supposed I must be daft. But it is

fairly prestigious to be world coal carrying champion, isn't it?" she said. Miss Burns said that her "Miss Muscles" image sometimes restricted her social life. She hopes to be the first woman to go to sea with the Navy, but proposes to defend her title next year if the Navy will fly her home.

The men's event, which attracted

far less attention than its feminine counterpart, was won by Mr John Hunter, a builders' labourer aged 26, from Scarborough.

He completed the two thirds of a mile course carrying 50kg of coal in four minutes 19 seconds, five seconds short of the record. The competition is in its twenty-seventh year.

BBC defends its 'discretion' in screening event

By Ray Clancy

THE BBC came under renewed criticism yesterday over the screening of last night's concert at Wembley in honour of Mr Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress.

The BBC refused, however, to comment on the cost of the live broadcast but defended the decision to screen the concert. A spokeswoman said: "The BBC has considerable expertise in covering major public events and has exercised proper discretion in this case."

Mr John Carlisle, chairman of the British South Africa Parliamentary Group and Conservative MP for Luton North, called on Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, to investigate the "extreme left-wing" attitude of the BBC.

"The BBC have gone bananas over this and seem to be joining those who are making Mandela out to be a Christ-like figure. This hero-worship is very much misplaced," Mr Carlisle said.

"The BBC has got to answer to its licence-payers and the Home Secretary must fully investigate those in power, from the governors to the producers, to question whether they are fit persons to run an independent authority."

However, Mr Robin Cor-

bett, shadow broadcasting minister, said: "This is a major news event and it is quite right that the BBC should cover it."

"It is a concert to celebrate Mr Mandela's freedom and in the course of it he gave a speech. I do not see anything political in that. It would be quite wrong if one of the TV channels did not report it."

Mr Rae Killen, the South African Ambassador in London, said that he had written to the BBC complaining that the concert did not give an accurate representation of the multi-faceted political scene in South Africa.

Before the concert, the International Freedom Foundation had complained to the corporation and asked for live coverage to be cancelled.

In a letter to Mr Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC chairman, Mr Marc Gordon, the foundation's executive director in London, said that the coverage was "an outrageous state of affairs" which was "a clear breach of the BBC's charter and licence."

On Mirror Group Newspapers' involvement, Mr Tony Hollingsworth, the show's producer, said that it had contributed to the cost of transport and accommodation for the Mandela entourage as well as the cost of the stage and sets at Wembley.

Crops threatened by aphid plagues

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

AFTER two mild winters, farmers and gardeners face a growing threat to their crops and plants from plagues of aphids that are increasingly resistant to chemical poisons.

Aphids spend the winter on trees, weeds and crops and migrate to emerging crops in the spring and summer, spreading viruses which they carry and sucking the sap out of plants.

British winters are normally cold enough to kill large numbers of the hibernating aphids, popularly called greenflies, but temperatures in 1988-89 and again last winter were so mild that most survived. If warmer winters become the norm, their rate of survival will increase.

"What is worrying is that heavier use of insecticides by farmers seems to be failing to control the aphid threat," Dr Mark Tatchell, head of pest monitoring and forecasting at the Rothamsted Experimental Station at Harpenden, Hertfordshire, said.

"The peach potato aphid, which can destroy potato and sugar beet crops, already shows extreme insecticide resistance, and reports over the past couple of months suggest that large numbers of cereal aphids are developing resistance as well."

January and February are crucial in determining early aphid activity and abundance. The mean temperature in these months this year was even higher than last. The network of 40ft suction-trap towers which Rothamsted operates throughout Britain has already pulled in the first flying aphids of the season.

"Aphids are on the move much earlier than usual," Dr Richard Harrington, a senior entomologist, said. "Those that damage crops are mostly asexual and can reproduce without mating. The warmer it gets, the faster they reproduce. So it is important to clobber them before their numbers have exploded."

Warmer winters also increase the survival rate of aphids' predators, which in-

Women seek help to go back to work

MOST women who return to work after having a family want the Government to do more to help them, according to a survey published yesterday.

More than 90 per cent of those questioned said that conditions for women were better than when they left, but 92 per cent said that the Government should be making it easier for women to go back to a job.

The disruptive effect on family life was the main drawback to returning to work, according to the survey by Dow Stoker, the training agency. Almost a third said that going back had affected their personal relationships.

Ms Bernadine Lawrence, of West Brompton, south-west London, said the article "Death of the Family", which appeared with a picture of her and her children, also included fabricated quotations.

Upholding her complaint, the Press Council said that the

Joint works canteen is a recipe for dissent

By Nicholas Watt

UNIONS at a British Aerospace plant claim that senior staff have been paid £400 "sweeteners" to compensate for losing a separate management canteen.

BAC had hoped to promote industrial harmony with the opening of a plush new £2.2 million "single-status" restaurant at the plant in Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

Mr Roy Hopkins, works convenor for the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said the 1,500 manual workers at the plant were so incensed when they heard of the compensation plan for 300 managers they called a boycott.

He said: "A single-status restaurant was meant to get rid of the 'them and us' feeling between the management and the workforce; but the company have destroyed that."

"The workforce is boycotting the restaurant until we can come to some agreement with the management about sorting out these payments," he said.

Staff also staged a 30-minute walkout when the restaurant was opened by Mr Paul Kirby, BAC's head of facilities. BAC denied that the payments were compensation, and said that they were designed to make up the difference between managers' old and new meal subsidies.

A Conservative-controlled county council is planning to give pay rises worth almost £2 million to help to recruit and retain senior staff. Details have not been disclosed, but the chief executive's salary is expected to rise from £64,000 to over £70,000 a year.

Hertfordshire County Council's personnel and training committee approved the rises at a closed meeting.

The Labour group, however, hopes to have the decision overturned when the council meets on May 15.

Its leader, Mr John Metcalf, said: "We demand a fair deal for all staff. The recruitment and retention of workers is even worse among the lower paid."

Firm in 'super-gun' rift confirms link with Bull

THE manufacturer of what is alleged to be a "super-gun barrel" for Iraq yesterday confirmed that it had been working on the contract with the Space Research Corporation, which was run by Dr Gerald Bull, the murdered ballistic expert.

However, Mr Stuart Benson, solicitor for Sheffield Forgemasters, which made the pipes involved in the dispute, said in a statement: "All documents I have seen support Forgemasters' understanding that the pipes were for a petrochemical application."

"It has always been accepted by Forgemasters that Space Research Corporation had involvement in this contract. Forgemasters has never sought to conceal such involvement." It is under-

stood that the Brussels-based Space Research Corporation (SRC), designers of a satellite launch system, approached Sheffield Forgemasters on behalf of Iraq's trade ministry for the supply of steel tubes for a petrochemical application, and a contract was signed in July 1988.

Mr Benson said: "Proper inquiries were made regarding the bona fides of SRC; its involvement in the contract, a copy of which was sent to the Department of Trade and Industry, appears quite clearly from documents forming part of the contract."

It is understood that, although SRC is known for its munitions expertise, it has acted as agents in handling contracts for supplies to a number of petrochemical in-

stallations in the Middle East. Dr Bull was shot by an unknown assassin outside his Brussels flat on March 22.

Forgemasters on Sunday denied that eight tubes seized by Customs officials could be assembled to form a giant gun. The firm's statement yesterday was made after reports that Customs sources had said the tubing was on its way to Iraq to build a huge gun capable of launching satellites.

Mr Benson said it had been suggested, possibly by Customs and Excise, that if the tubes were indeed for the petrochemical industry, Sheffield Forgemasters would have made a court application to have them released from seizure.

He said, however, that the tubes belonged to the Iraqi Government and their release was a matter between the Government and the UK authorities.

He said it also appeared that documents handed to Customs and Excise by Forgemasters had been handed unlawfully to the press and "used out of context in order to try and harm my client."

Mr Benson said it was not for Forgemasters to prove or disprove the ultimate purpose of the tubes. "My only concern is to rebut any suggestion that it has acted in any way improperly or unlawfully."

Customs and Excise denied releasing documents to the press. It also said that the tubes were "not the property of the person they are being built for until they are delivered on board ship, and these parts never made it that far."

Paper censured over feature on author

THE *Daily Mail* "intruded unacceptably" into the privacy of an author who gave an exclusive interview to the newspaper about her book, only to see it appear nearly four months later in a feature about unmarried mothers, the Press Council ruled yesterday.

Ms Bernadine Lawrence, of West Brompton, south-west London, said the article "Death of the Family", which appeared with a picture of her and her children, also included fabricated quotations.

Upholding her complaint, the Press Council said that the

newspaper had "intruded unacceptably" into both her and her children's privacy.

Mr Andreas Whittam Smith, the editor of *The Independent*, may be reported to the House of Commons for alleged breach of parliamentary privilege after publishing a leaked report of a select committee inquiry into the disclosure of criminal records by the police.

Sir John Wheeler, chairman of the home affairs committee, accused the editor of appropriating embargoed information.

Handcuffed passenger to sue

A BUSINESSMAN is to sue the Pan Am airline, claiming that accusations that he started a bomb alert caused his wife's miscarriage.

Armed guards handcuffed Mr Allan Neilson, aged 32, and dragged him away from his wife and children after he tried to give a warning of a security lapse to Miami staff of Pan Am, whose aircraft was blown up over Lockerbie. US police have now dropped

charges of falsely reporting a bomb on an aircraft.

Mr Neilson, a branch manager of a computer sales company, vowed yesterday to sue Pan Am for compensation because his wife, Heidi, suffered a miscarriage three days after the incident, which began when they and their children, Sabrina, aged three, and Andrew, two, discovered a seating blunder on their holiday flight from Miami to

Britain last month, and their jet began its take-off run with their luggage still on board.

Mrs Neilson, aged 26, of Almondsbury, near Bristol, said: "My husband said to the Pan Am official 'How can you let our luggage go without us — what if there was a bomb in it?' The official had said he was treating their comments as a bomb threat."

A Pan Am spokesman in London declined to comment.

Stoical tourists find Stonehenge facilities prehistoric

By Ruth Gledhill

MORE than 3,500 visitors to Stonehenge, one of the country's oldest monuments, yesterday stoically endured facilities that some would say were similarly primitive.

Lack of sign-posting and seats, high entrance fees, poor catering facilities and cramped car parking were the most common complaints. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of English Heritage, described conditions as "deplorable".

He said a planning application for a new visitors' centre is being prepared, after a six-year delay, and is to be submitted late this summer. A public inquiry is expected to follow and the centre, some distance from the stones, should be open in 1993 or 1994.

That was small comfort to families such as those of Mrs Rebecca Molloy, visiting the stones for the first time because a son was doing a history project on them at school.

As the heavens opened shortly after they pushed through the crowds in the narrow entrance, Mrs Molloy, her husband Michael and their children Edward, aged seven and Andrew, aged six, took shelter in the concrete bunker with its welcome signs inviting visitors to "step back in time more than 3,500 years". The bunker, however, is more likely to evoke images of the

last war. As the wind off Salisbury Plain whistled through the tunnel which leads visitors under the A344 to the adjacent stones the shivering Molloys complained that the tiny souvenir shop was already too packed with like-minded people to offer cover.

Mrs Molloy said: "If only there was somewhere for people to shelter. This is like a concrete war bunker." However, discomfort was less important than spoiling the site, she added. "Stonehenge is a very important part of our history. I would not like to see new facilities built near the stones or to see it commercialized."

Miss Carole Hennessey, an Australian tourist, aged 23, said she too did not expect much in the way of facilities but said English Heritage should supply some umbrellas.

"Stonehenge is already commercialized. A little more commercialism would not hurt. It is so English — just look at the weather."

The Bank holiday saw other visitors attracted for more spiritual reasons. Miss Nicola Watson, aged 18, a student from Newark, Nottinghamshire, had come to "re-charge" her quartz crystal by holding it next to the 50 ton Heel Stone. "It is wonderful, it is elemental — there is nowhere to shelter at all," she declared. The Wiltshire branch of the Royal

Institute of British Architects has described the existing facilities as "squalid" but said it was concerned that private sector involvement in the new centre should not detract from the "rugged loneliness" of the monument.

Lord Montagu, however, said one advantage of the new centre was that it would be hidden behind trees to the north of the monument. "We wish to return Stonehenge to the landscape which it was originally the centre of."

The centre, catering for up to one million visitors a year, was delayed for nearly six years because of lengthy discussions with the Ministry of Defence.

The ministry has now agreed to sell the land needed for the building on a site north of the monument and close to army married quarters at Larkhill.

Visitors will walk three-quarters of a mile to Stonehenge along a track.

Existing facilities will be removed and the A344 grassed over, with traffic diverted via the A303. The road plan is likely to be the most contentious, with opposition coming from a nearby village.

However, Lord Montagu said English Heritage welcomed a public inquiry.

"The necessary facilities such as a car park, should not be on top of a monument like Stonehenge."



Miss Nicola Watson "recharges" her quartz crystal on the Heel Stone. Stonehenge in the wind and rain was "elemental" she said

Scargill 'lucky to be alive'

MR ARTHUR Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said yesterday that he was "lucky to be alive" after a car collided with his vehicle head-on at temporary traffic lights on the A61 at Burncross, near Sheffield, five miles from his home.

Mr Scargill, who was driving his Granada Scorpio car home from his Sheffield office at 5.30 pm on Sunday, was knocked unconscious and was taken to hospital in Sheffield. Ambulance men gave him oxygen. He was back home yesterday nursing a cut face and wearing a surgical collar. The other driver received cuts.

Mr Scargill had to cancel a trip to London to meet Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the South African miners' leader visiting with Mr Nelson Mandela.

Ulster shooting

A man aged 23 who was linked with a republican terrorist organization was murdered on Sunday night after being dragged from his girlfriend's house by hooded men in Newry, Co Down, Mr Eoin Morley was shot twice in the back. He died in hospital two hours later.

Porpoise delay

Attempts to rescue a porpoise trapped in King George Dock at Hull for six weeks have been called off until next weekend. He has defied all efforts by a marine life rescue team to entice him through the lock gates into the Humber.

Blasphemy plea

Muslim leaders may go to the European Court of Human Rights to have the author Salman Rushdie prosecuted for blasphemy over his book *The Satanic Verses* if the House of Lords does not overturn a High Court ruling that the law applies only to Christians.

Prisoner dies

A man jailed for his part in a child sex abuse ring has been found dead in his cell at Wakefield top security jail, West Yorkshire. The man, aged 30, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was sentenced in 1988.

Pit jobs appeal

Miners are to make a final attempt to save a threatened South Wales pit and more than 500 jobs there. Union officials will ask for more time to improve productivity at Blaencynon pit, near Neath, when they meet British Coal chiefs on Thursday.

Capital ban

Five Birmingham City supporters were banned from London by the Haringey Road magistrates yesterday when they were bailed accused of hooliganism after Saturday's Fulham v. Birmingham match. They, and two others from Surrey, were also banned from all football matches.

13m went to mow

Gardeners did not let the grass grow under their feet over the Easter weekend. An estimated 13 million mowed more than 25,000 sq miles of lawns, providing 160,000 tons of grass for the compost bin, according to Arco, the lawnmower makers.

By the way, the 13 million lawnmowers used in the Easter weekend were worth £1.3 million, according to the lawnmower makers. The 13 million lawnmowers used in the Easter weekend were worth £1.3 million, according to the lawnmower makers.

Rare buffalo risk being killed by keepers over pay

By Ruth Gladhill

THE only captive group of an endangered species of buffalo is at risk of being exterminated by its keepers.

The shy, timid tamaraw buffalo have become hostages of the keepers employed to ensure their survival. A British conservationist who is trying to save the species, in the Philippines, has been asked to find £3,000 to prevent the animals being mutilated or killed.

The Philippine government has told Dr Mike Woodford, the conservationist, that it has run out of money for the keepers' wages.

The keepers are threatening to attack the buffalo unless they are paid and are being supported by at least one of the rebel groups opposed to the government of President Aquino.

The keepers' action exemplifies the kind of political

blackmail that governments fear will be used in developing countries to exploit growing environmental awareness.

The tamaraw, found only on the Philippine island of Mindoro, is in imminent danger of extinction as a result of rain forest destruction.

Its survival is important not only for its own sake, but because scientists believe the small black buffalo to be the forerunner of the water buffalo, the world's most widely used domestic beast.

Thousands of *Alocasia* plants, which weigh about 500 lb and have swept-back horns, once roamed the Mindoro rain forests. However, their numbers have fallen to about 350 in the wild and between 10 and 15 in captivity, in a three-square kilometre forest park where they are guarded by 10 to 15 attendants. Because the animal is

shy and difficult to catch, scientists believe that without urgent action all could die out because of the continuing depletion of habitat.

The Philippine government has agreed to allow the captive tamaraw to be flown by helicopter to the University of the Philippines at Los Banos on the main island of Luzon, where it is hoped they can be studied and bred in an operation backed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Zoological Society of London.

Dr Woodford, chairman of the IUCN veterinary specialists' group, has returned from the Philippines determined to raise the "paltry" sum needed to save the species.

He said: "Although the Philippine government have agreed that the animals should be moved off Mindoro, they are unable to do it for about three months."

"They have run out of money to pay the staff who are looking after the animals. The staff are upset and are threatening to injure, mutilate or kill the captives if they are not paid."

"One problem is that Mindoro is rather political and a number of rebel groups have become involved in this. We are now trying to raise about £3,000 which is required to pay the staff for the next three months."



Regency Bummer Boy, a Welsh cob, at the London Harness Horse Parade held at Regent's Park yesterday

Pressure for dog registers grows

By John Young

ANIMAL workers and local authority groups are increasing their efforts to persuade the Government to reconsider its refusal to introduce a dog registration scheme to tackle the growing problem of strays, and the threat they pose to public health and safety.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals, the British Veterinary Association, the National Farmers' Union and local authority organizations are working together to win MPs' support.

Last year, when they launched a joint campaign on the issue, the Government came within 13 votes of defeat during the Local Government and Housing Bill, when 30 Conservative backbenchers voted in favour of registration.

Now Dame Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake, and a member of the RSPCA council, and Mrs Ann Taylor, the Labour environment spokeswoman, are to table an amendment to the Environmental Protection Bill, which could come before the Commons next week. Last autumn more than 300 MPs signed an early day motion calling for registration.

They are overwhelmingly

supported by the police, local authorities, veterinary surgeons, animal welfare organizations, environmental groups, farmers, landowners and people who are tired of fouled streets.

The recent spate of reports of attacks by dogs has heightened public concern and increased calls for action.

In London alone, some 50 strays are rounded up every day and taken to Battersea Dogs Home. This year the home is to introduce its own registration scheme, under which every dog coming into its care will have a tiny electronic "chip" implanted under its skin so that it can be instantly identified on a computer.

Mr Tom Field-Fisher, QC, the home's chairman, hopes that his scheme will persuade the Government of the benefits of registration. Since abolishing the dog licence last year, the Government has insisted that a registration scheme would be expensive and bureaucratic. But its supporters maintain that, given a realistic fee, it would be self-financing and would relieve the burden on the police and local authorities.

Management 'hampers' school reforms

By Douglas Broom Education Reporter

TOP-HEAVY management in schools is hampering reforms, depressing teacher morale and making it difficult for parents to get straight answers to questions, a teachers' union leader said yesterday.

Mr Michael Carney, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, told its annual conference in Scarborough that schools faced "a bureaucratic nightmare".

He said the pay structure imposed on teachers three years ago created "extended hierarchies" which were barriers to change.

Mr Carney, a science teacher from Durham, said that while the Government used industrial language to describe education, it had failed to apply business eff-

iciency principles to schools. The new system of five incentive allowances for promoting teachers meant that "managers" were proliferating in schools at a time when big companies were seeking to shed layers of management and to encourage workers to operate in teams.

Growing bureaucracy in schools presented formidable barriers to parents seeking help with problems facing their children. A simple query might involve the head, deputy head, head of year, group tutor, and head of subject, all of whom would be "reluctant to deal with the problem without stepping on someone's toes," he said.

"It is conceivable that the last in line to be consulted would be the actual teacher who dealt with the student."

One of the worst effects of

Black teachers were discouraged from entering the profession because of racism among staff and pupils, the conference of the National Union of Teachers in Bournemouth was told yesterday.

Miss Sue Clements, of North Yorkshire, said a black teacher had confiscated a note with a drawing of himself captioned "this is the coon". Only two or three staff members supported him when he complained.

The present system was the way on which it discriminated against women. While women represented 47 per cent of secondary school teachers, only 17 per cent of secondary school heads were women.

Mr Carney went on to attack the habit of promoting teachers out of the classroom and said that the work of the

ordinary classroom teacher should be valued above every other task in a school.

Today the conference will debate a motion calling for the abolition of the present management structure and its replacement with a "collegiate" system under which teachers would receive broadly similar salaries and share the responsibilities now hived off to individuals.

Delegates representing 118,000 members will also be asked to seek a merger with the larger National Union of Teachers. Mr Carney, however, said that the NAS/UWT must maintain an independent voice.

He made a thinly-veiled personal attack on Mr Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the NUT, who had publicly criticized the NAS/UWT for staging a one-day strike over

pay on April 4. Mr Carney referred to "the long-term campaign of one teachers' union leader who has decided to eschew the strike weapon for the foreseeable future, a policy which I predict will rebound upon him."

Mr Carney went on to assert that his union would retain the strike weapon.

He defended the union's decision to hold a one-day strike on the eve of the Easter holiday in protest at the decision to phase the teachers' 8.5 per cent pay rise, which reduced its value.

In an attack on the five other teachers unions, who all refused to join in strike action, he said: "The apologists of apathy who infest our staff rooms must some day face the responsibility they have for abandoning the cause of education."

Lawyers ready for Commons fight on reforms

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

LEADERS of both branches of the legal profession are preparing for a battle over their monopolies when the Courts and Legal Services Bill moves into the Commons tomorrow.

With the force of the consumer lobby behind the proposed reforms, the Bill's provisions to open higher courts to solicitors and allow big financial institutions to do conveyancing are certain to get a fair wind from MPs.

Commons debate will be devoid of the large number of senior judges who promoted the Bar's line in the Upper House.

Despite the certain Commons backing for the over-riding principles of the reforms — greater consumer choice, improved access to justice — the Government can expect MPs to attack defects in legal services generally.

The state of the county courts, described by the Lord Chief Justice as "crumbling", is likely to be a focus of criticism.

The primary target of attack will be on the state of the legal aid scheme and falling numbers of people who qualify for it. The Law Society and the Bar are united in their criticism of the Government on this issue.

In particular it will provide a much-needed rallying point for the Labour Party, whose position on the Bill's reforms in other respects is equivocal.

With proposals to break the profession's monopolies, Labour in theory should be on the Government's side. Mr John Morris, QC, chief Labour legal affairs spokesman, is a member of the Bar, so a question-mark hangs over what line the opposition will take.

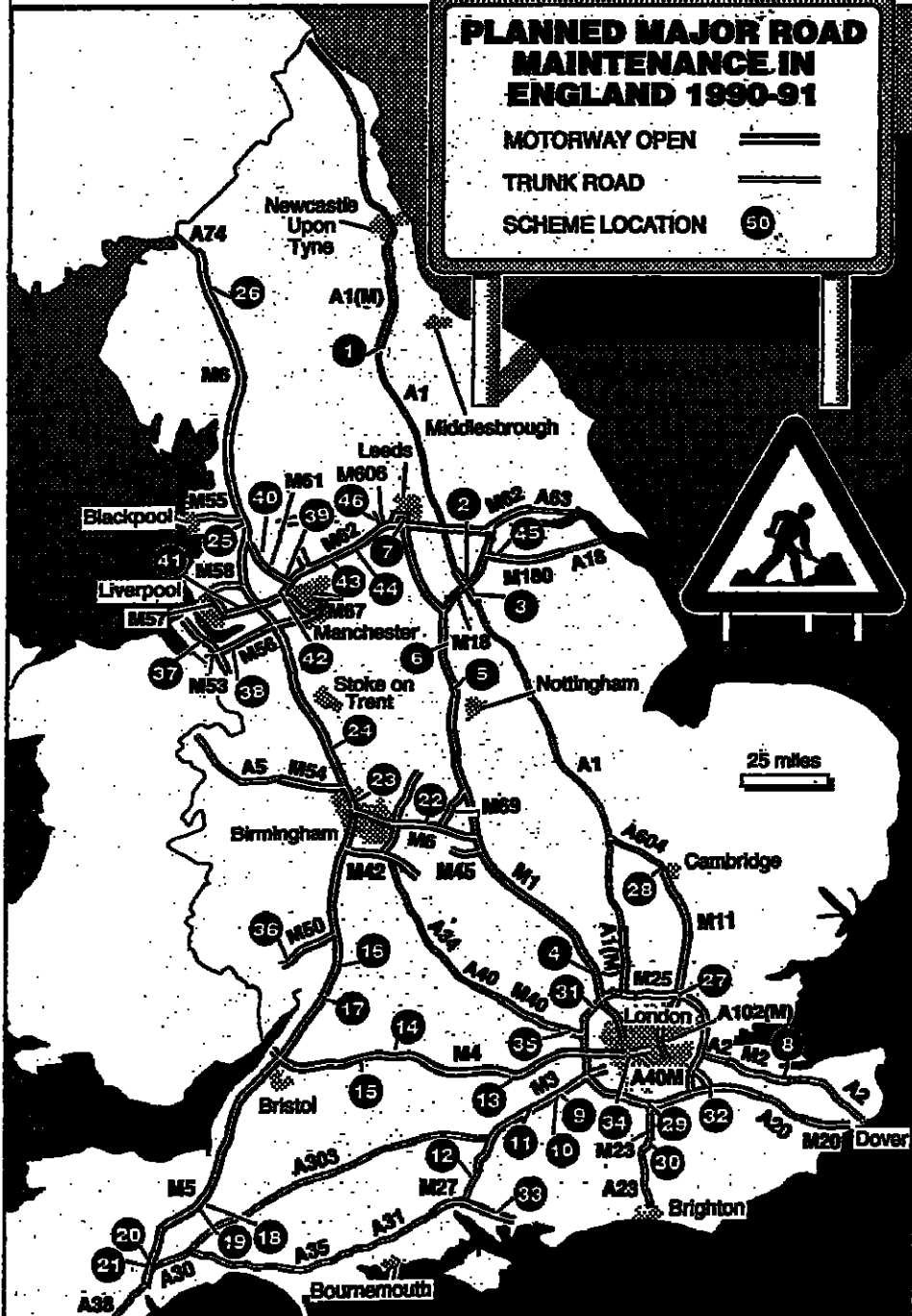
The Bill, in which the Lord Chancellor clears the ground for the biggest changes to the legal profession this century, survived largely intact in the House of Lords.

With the notable exception of the "cab-rank" rule, the Government was not forced to retreat or concede any significant changes. The rule is likely to provoke heated debate in the Commons, but it is expected that the Government will act to overturn its Lords' defeat.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, who will steer the Bill in the Commons, is expected to have the rule removed and put in its place a statutory duty requiring professional bodies to draw up such a rule.

Three years to clear repair backlog

By Michael Dynes Transport Correspondent



MOTORISTS and freight hauliers face three further years of intensive road maintenance until the backlog of repairs, accumulated over the past two decades, has been cleared, it was said yesterday.

However, Mr Richard Diment, deputy director of the British Road Federation, said: "By 1992 the Department of Transport should be able to cut the amount of motorway maintenance — by which time the anticipated increase in traffic volumes will make it increasingly difficult to take lanes out of operation."

To meet this target, the Government would need to keep to its programme of repairing 84 miles of motorway and 230 miles of trunk road a year, he said.

Mr Diment said the Department of Transport had accumulated much experience in motorway construction and maintenance over the past 30 years and had rectified many of the errors which were contributing now to delays.

"All new construction and repairs are required to satisfy the department's new 40-year specification, replacing the former 25-year specification, which provides a thicker and stronger sub-structure."

"At last they have accepted the argument that it is better to spend more money on high-quality construction and repairs now, than to be confronted with increased costs and delays later on."

Announcing the motorway maintenance programme for 1990-91, Mr Robert Atkins, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said: "We are again embarking on a programme of motorway maintenance to keep our roads safe and in good condition."

The Department of Transport has earmarked more than £400 million for the forthcoming motorway maintenance programme, £294 million of which will go on structural road maintenance (up £54 million), and £113 million on bridges (up £12 million).

Mr Atkins said: "The department has to work to strict cash limits so the number of schemes we are able to carry out will depend on construction prices."

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Dial 071 for London ... or should it be 081?

By Tom Giles

WITH less than three weeks to go until the biggest overhaul of London's dialling codes since the demise of WHI for Whitehall and WAT for Waterloo, it seems that only the capital's printers and estate agents are wholly prepared.

From midnight on Saturday May 5 the capital's 01 code will be replaced by 071 for inner London and 081 for outer London after a year of hectic rewriting and advertising which have cost British Telecom more than £30 million.

The new area codes, which will draw a line around an area of central London from Fulham to Canary Wharf and from Brixton to Kentish Town, may have already created a cacophony for some homebuyers and a headache for an estimated 400,000 businesses.

In her control room in BT's London network management centre, Mrs Millie Bannerjee, the chief co-ordinator of the change-over, predicts a night of only mild confusion as millions of people across the country pick up the telephone and dial the wrong number.

"I'm confident that the change will go ahead smoothly, and because we've got announcements ready for those who dial wrong numbers, I believe customers will pick it up quickly," she said.

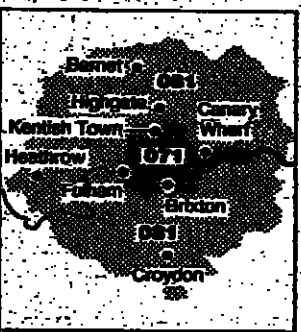
BT has installed enough recorded messages to reroute up to 50,000 misdialed calls a minute. Although they are in

English, BT says most international telephone operators have agreed to intercept calls with messages in their native tongue. These calls, from, for example, Albania or Somalia, will, however, have to work it out for themselves.

Over the Easter weekend Mrs Bannerjee and her team of 12 engineers have monitored telephone traffic to predict the volume of calls over the Bank holiday on Monday May 7.

"The first Tuesday after the Bank holiday is a very big day for us. That's when you will really know what the customers are doing," she said.

The forecast is, however, not promising. In a survey last month, BT found that only a quarter of London's businesses knew their codes. Only 14 per cent had told staff of their new work code and only 9 per cent had bothered to tell customers. Since then, BT says, just under half the capital's companies have been



gun making some preparation. At the headquarters of Protagor, in Darlington, Co Durham, there is disappointment at the business community's inactivity. Two months ago the printing company launched a special offer for changing letter-heads and business cards. It has even followed this up with offers of free labels, but to little avail.

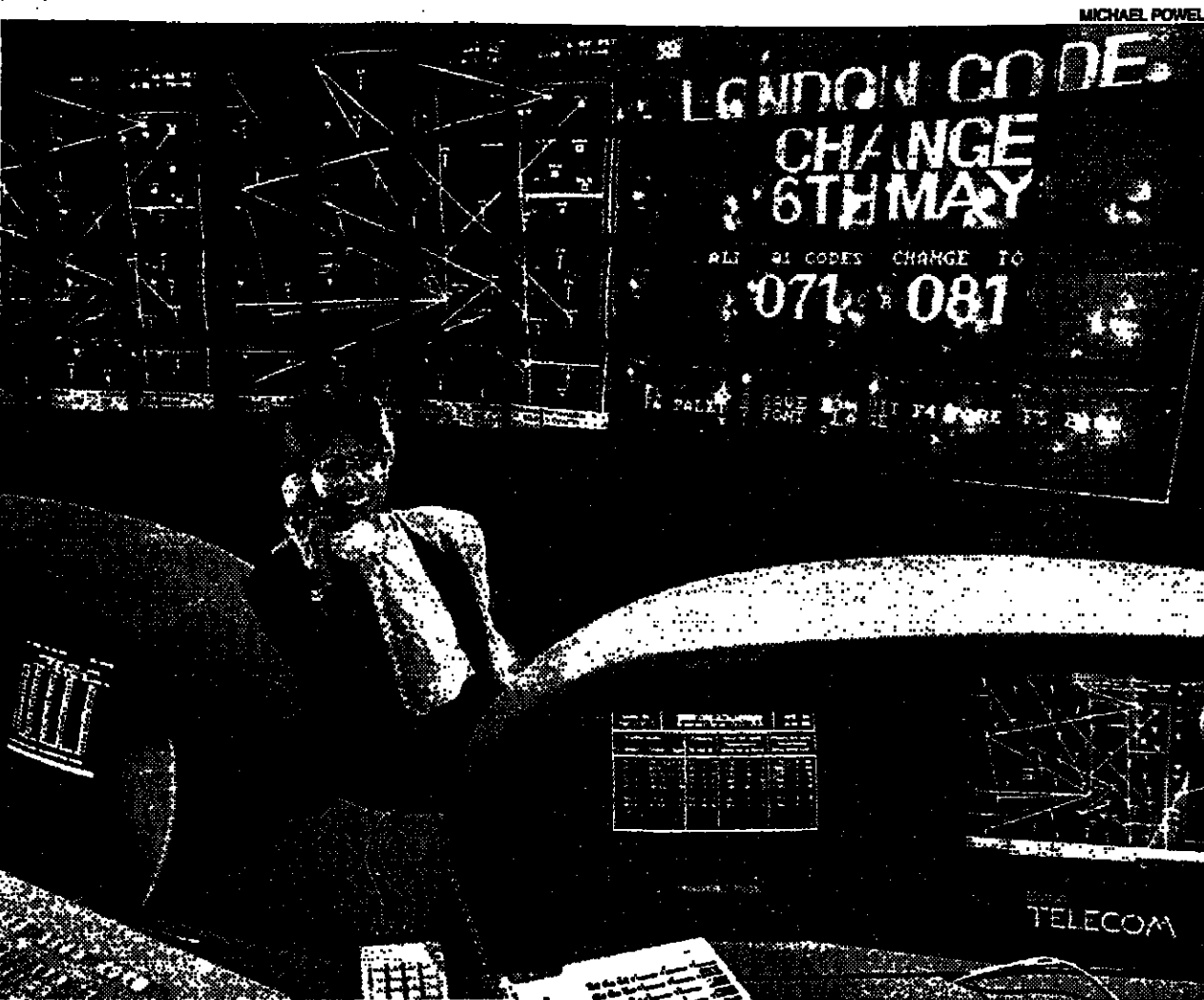
Mr Derek Mottershead, the firm's managing director, said: "We have definitely had some extra business but it's not been nearly as much as we anticipated. There must be an awful lot of people sitting around London with 01 letterheads and I'm sure there's going to be a hell of a rude awakening towards the end of April."

But the British do tend to wait for the boats to be on the beaches before they do anything.

BT says that the new codes will more than double London's capacity for numbers, which has been stretched by an upsurge of businesses in the City and Docklands.

In theory, the present 01 system provides 10 million numbers — the three-digit local area codes provide 1000 variations and the four digits which follow give a further 10,000 — but the actual capacity is about five million.

There are three reasons for this shortfall. First, local codes cannot begin with zero; second, they are given out on a geographical basis, so that al-



Hold the line: Mrs Bannerjee, chief co-ordinator of the change-over, who predicts a night of only mild confusion

though there may be a surplus of numbers in one area these cannot be used in another, and

third, redundant numbers are unwanted calls. The Confederation of British Industry says that the change reflects

the success of London's enterprise. It says that companies are already rising to the challenge and, in spite of costs running into millions of pounds, insists that the change will be a fillip for business.

Britain's top 1,000 companies have already received BT presentations, but the company says that it is still concerned by smaller companies who have no direct contact with BT and from whom there is little sign of activity.

To counter this, BT has sent out 400,000 final check-lists to businesses urging them to reprogramme private switchboards and facsimile machines. It will also distribute more than 75 million tables detailing the new numbers in 16 languages, on audio tape and in braille, by the end of the month.

In a further complication to BT's efforts, the Association of British Insurers has said that many policy-holders will not be covered in the event of a break-in if alarm systems have not been converted.

From the more marginal areas of the new "inner London" region, darker warnings are being sounded by the capital's estate agents that the 071 prefix could become another residential status symbol to be considered alongside "leafy aspects" and "commanding views".

Mr Trevor Kent, president of the National Association of Estate Agents, said: "There are certainly people who need that life-style, just as some need a G-registration car."

GPs get ready for a summer of sewage sickness

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

DOCTORS are expecting an increase this summer in illnesses contracted from bathing off Britain's polluted coast.

Holidaymakers are warned in this week's *General Practitioner*, a medical magazine, of the risks of "sewage sickness" at many beaches.

Two studies into the health hazards of coastline pollution have been commissioned by

the Department of Environment and may prompt government action within the next few months.

The department recently published figures showing that almost 25 per cent of 440 beaches from which samples were taken had traces of coliform bacteria, which is present in faeces.

Dr David Wheeler, of the Robens Institute of Industrial and Environmental Health and Safety at Surrey University, said that pollution indicated by coliform levels is linked to gastro-intestinal upsets.

His own survey at two coastal resorts found 40-fold differences in microbiological pollution.

Swimmers at the dirtier of the two beaches were more likely to report specific symptoms such as stomach upsets, nausea and diarrhoea, especially if they had immersed their heads in the sea, he said.

Although the viruses which cause meningitis, hepatitis and polio could pose a risk to bathers, the hazard is remote, according to Dr Wheeler. A recent claim by environmental campaigners that HIV, the virus which causes Aids, could be transmitted through polluted seawater, was a "vanishingly small possibility", he said.

Professor Alesdair McIntyre, a marine biologist from Aberdeen University, said that the polio virus survived in small quantities in sea water for 17 months.

The magazine says: "While the risk of ill-health from swimming may be small, unless you know the beach is safe and free from pollution it may be safer just to make sandcastles."

Only 21 UK beaches have been given an EC "blue flag", denoting a clean beach, against 120 in Spain and 107 in Portugal. Although the Department of Health said there was no associated risk to bathers, the Government is spending £3 billion to upgrade sewage facilities and reduce pollution, the magazine said.

Demand for nuclear waste body

By Ray Clancy

THERE are virtually no plans for disposing of high level nuclear waste in Britain and a radical reassessment of policy is needed, Friends of the Earth, the environmental group, says in a survey published today.

The survey of 13 countries found that Britain is the only one with no established timetable for finding solutions to the problem, no research programme on the suitability of rock formations and no investigations under way of potential sites for waste disposal.

Mr Michael Harper, spokesman for the group's energy campaign which commissioned the survey from an independent geologist, said: "The UK has no specific plans for dealing with this exceptionally dangerous waste but continues to produce and accumulate it."

He said that an independent authority is needed to decide high-level waste management policy. UK Nirex Ltd is responsible for the disposal of low and intermediate waste but has no remit for high level material. In many countries including Britain, the United States, Japan, West Germany, and Switzerland, public opposition has seriously disrupted attempts to dispose of radioactive waste, the survey found.

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SNP vows to resist radioactive dump

By Kerry Gill

THE Scottish National Party gave a warning yesterday that it would launch a campaign of civil disobedience to stop the dumping of nuclear waste in the Highlands.

It is believed that Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland, is soon to decide whether to grant planning permission for test boring for a potential nuclear waste dump near Dounreay, in Caithness.

Recent referenda in Caithness and Easter Ross have shown that local people are against any form of nuclear dumping, and the SNP claims that the transport of nuclear waste would pose a threat to many parts of Scotland.

Yesterday, Mrs Winnie Ewing, the SNP Euro-MP for the Highlands and Islands, said: "The Scottish National Party is making it crystal clear to the Government and their nuclear waste agency, Nirex, we will not stand by and allow any part of our country to be turned into a radioactive mid-

den." She said that dumping would endanger the health of future generations and spoil the clean environment essential to the fishing, tourist and farming industries in the north of Scotland.

"Whilst we recognize our responsibility to deal with the waste already produced in Scotland, we cannot, and will not, allow our country to be turned into a dumping ground for England's, Europe's and the world's nuclear refuse," she said.

Mr Iain Glen, an SNP member of Badenoch and Strathspey District Council, said: "The whole of the Highlands, and indeed, many other parts of Scotland, would be endangered by the transportation through our communities every week of vast quantities of deadly radioactive materials."

The SNP leadership said the party would call for whatever action necessary, including peaceful civil disobedience, to stop nuclear waste dumping.



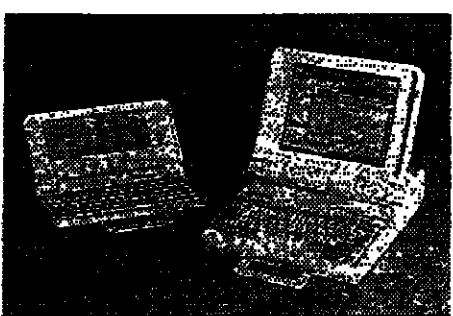
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'More help for family carers' plea

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

FAMILIES are increasingly providing the bulk of care for the frail elderly and disabled children but are given little financial or practical support, according to a report published today.

The Family Policy Studies Centre says one in seven people aged over 16 is caring for someone who is sick, elderly or handicapped, yet "few dependent people who have informal carers appear to receive services and, when they do, such services are usually crisis-oriented rather than a part of long-term support". Where services were allocated they tended to be irrational and discriminatory.

The report emphasizes that the costs of caring can be substantial, particularly when the carer has to give up work or take a part-time job. Childless women giving up work to care for relatives lose about £8,500 a year.

"Families are far more important than the welfare state in providing care on a massive scale," the centre's director Mr Malcolm Wicks said. "But the costs they shoulder, financial and emotional, are often tremendous. The need is to

build partnerships between families and social services."

With Due Care and Attention: A Review of Research on Informal Care (Family Policy Studies Centre, 231 Baker Street, London NW1 6XE, £7.75)

● The Government's failure to conduct pilot studies of its health service reforms before introducing them nationally is criticized today by a former chief medical officer at the Department of Health.

Sir Henry Yellowlees, who was chief medical officer between 1973 and 1983 and is now a consultant for the World Health Organization, says the reforms depend on an internal market which in turn depends on accurate costings.

Yet the department's advisers admitted that it was not possible accurately to cost treatment, Sir Henry says in a letter to *The Times* today. "It is clear that an internal market is far from ready."

It is essential to introduce the schemes in pilot areas so that they could be properly supported financially and refined before being introduced nationally, he says.

Letters, page 13

Brown bear kept cub a secret for months

By Ruth Gledhill

A RARE European brown bear cub whose father Jacko featured in the film *The Bear* has ventured out of his den for the first time closely guarded by his mother Heather.

The bear, Heather's second cub, of the species *Ursus arctos*, was born in January at Whipsnade Wild Animal Park in Bedfordshire but was kept hidden even from other bears by his shaggy-haired mother until shortly before Easter.

As if on cue, she led him proudly out into the sunshine in time for visitors at the park over the holiday break, where he quickly became the main attraction.

The mother charmed watchers by hiding the tiny cub beneath bushes and in nooks and crannies around the enclosure. The biggest threat to its safety will be from the other female bear and her cubs, who are cubless and jealous.

Mr Graham Lucas, the headkeeper, was unable to discover the sex of the new cub until the weekend. He has still to decide on a name.

The new cub, which will be suckled for 18 months, weighs about 10lbs, although at birth it would have resembled a rat and weighed about 1lb.

Once grown, he will probably be sent to another zoo to avoid friction with Jacko.



The rare cub at play with his mother at Whipsnade over the holiday weekend

Labour will win the day — but not the councils

By Michael Hart

THE Conservatives are bracing themselves for their biggest local election setback in nearly 20 years. In London, the party faces defeat in several boroughs while in the metropolitan districts their already slender representation will be cut still further.

Perhaps the only consolation for embattled Tories trying to defend the poll tax is that outside London, Labour is unlikely to gain control of many more councils.

All the seats in the 32 London boroughs are being decided on May 3, along with a third of the memberships of the 36 metropolitan districts, and 120 non-metropolitan districts in England and Wales. In Scotland, 12 councils have all their seats up for election.

This is a rerun of the 1986 local elections, when the Conservatives suffered a net loss of 705 seats, leaving them 1,501. Most of their losses were to Labour who enter the fray with 2,463. The Liberal Democrats have about 750 seats to defend.

In 1986, the Government was suffering from mid-term unpopularity and the results reflected that. Further losses cannot therefore be explained by that alone.

Labour won about 44 per cent of the votes in 1986, but nearly 50 per cent of the seats. If, as opinion polls suggest, it wins 50 per cent of the vote this time, the party should take control of several London boroughs from the Conservatives, but relatively few other councils — because only a third of the seats are being contested.

Even so, the Government will find it uncomfortable trying to alter poll tax arrangements next year if more councils are Labour-led.

Since the Conservatives came to power in 1979 there has been a tendency for people to "vote left" in council polls while voting Conservative in general elections.

That trend has gathered momentum, except in 1983 and 1987 when a general election was expected — and followed — almost immediately after the local polls.

It is often held that voters want services from their local councils and are therefore prepared to vote Labour or Liberal Democrat, whereas in general elections they vote with their pockets.

The Liberal Democrats rate only 6 per cent in the opinion polls, but in local government elections have won about 20 per cent of the vote in the past 15 months. If they repeat that performance on May 3, they should retain three-quarters of the seats they are defending, and gain some from the Tories.

Liberal Democrat councillors often claim to keep in touch with their voters through regular newsletters and by taking up local grievances. If so, they are likely to perform better in district councils where electorates are small, such as Adur in Sussex, and Hereford, than in the metropolitan districts where a close relationship between councillors and electors is more difficult.

Some results will carry particular significance. Wandsworth and Westminster both have slender Conservative majorities and very low poll taxes. It would embarrass the Government to lose either.

The Conservatives control

only three of the metropolitan districts, of which Bradford has attracted most attention. There, the new administration came to office through a by-election victory, the casting vote of the mayor and a Labour defection. Labour ought to regain the city but it will be hampered by its own success in 1986 when it won 22 seats to the Conservatives' nine. There are therefore relatively few seats which Labour can pick up this time.

In London, Labour should win control of Enfield and Merton, with Barnet and Croydon as longer shots. It should also overhaul the Conservatives in Havering and win a majority from the Liberal Democrats in Tower Hamlets.

A year ago the Conservatives were confident of returning to power in Sutton, snatched from them by the Liberal Democrats in 1986, but their optimism has become more muted since then.

If Labour does win more London councils there will be a certain paradox in the capital's politics. London moved strongly to the Tories in the 1983 general election and still further in their direction in 1987. There was a sharp lurch in the other direction in the 1986 local elections, and it is quite possible that by May 4 most of London's Conservative MPs will represent constituencies with Labour or Liberal Democrat councils.

Labour is unlikely to make much further progress in the metropolitan boroughs, if only because it was so successful in 1986. Of the 277 wards, Labour won 586, the Conservatives only 138, the Liberals 85, SDP 11 and other parties seven. Only Bury and Trafford in Greater Manchester



Mr Ridley: Prediction will be proved right

offer the prospect of significant Conservative gains, while the party's decline in areas such as Sefton and Wirral is likely to continue.

All the parties will have their claims and excuses ready when the results are known, but two conclusions are certain: Mr Nicholas Ridley will be proved right in his prediction that the voter would pass judgement on the poll tax through the ballot box, and local elections are not an accurate guide to what might happen in a general election. If the 1986 local results had been repeated in the 1987 general election, Labour would have won.

The difference between 1986 and 1990 is the poll tax. If the Conservatives do badly then the pressure on Mr Chris Patten, the Secretary of State for the Environment, to make substantial changes to the tax will be even greater, and even more expensive.

Michael Hart is a Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford.

Pay deals over 8%

Two-thirds of pay deals agreed so far this year have increased wages by eight per cent or more, according to a survey by Incomes Data Services, the independent pay analysts.

It shows no let-up in the shift towards higher pay settlements with two-thirds of January deals worth eight per cent or more, and one in 10 in double figures. These have been made mainly by chemical and construction firms and insurance companies. Incomes Data Services predicts that upward pressure on settlements will increase because of an expected rise in inflation.

Drugs charge

Mr Diderick Koster, from The Netherlands, was remanded in custody yesterday charged with smuggling £1½ million of heroin through Harwich.

Youth crushed

Samuel Lambton, aged 17, of Singlewell, Kent, was crushed to death when a stack of newspaper rolls fell on him as he and five friends went joyriding on a forklift truck after breaking into a warehouse.

30 beds cut

Berkshire Health Authority is to cut 30 beds for at least a year at the Royal Berkshire and Battle hospitals to save £400,000. About 1,100 fewer patients will be admitted.

Birds on the roof

Residents on an estate in Cinderford, Gloucestershire, say that jackdaws have taken over their chimney pots because crows were not fitted after central heating work.

Golfing request

The Queen's nearest neighbour at Sandringham, Mr John Powling, has applied to open a golf course and clubhouse on farmland at Hillington, Norfolk, on the edge of the royal estate.

Seeing double

Mr Phillip Grigg, aged 19, and his brother, Anthony, identical twins who join Devon and Cornwall police today, are to walk different beats to avoid possible confusion.

Eastern promise

Chinese cultural experts are to assess oriental restaurants in Shepton Mallet, Somerset, to ensure Far East visitors to the International Canavias Rally can get a decent takeaway.

Ten charged

Ten people were charged with obstruction yesterday after an anti-poll tax demonstration in Ripley, Derbyshire.

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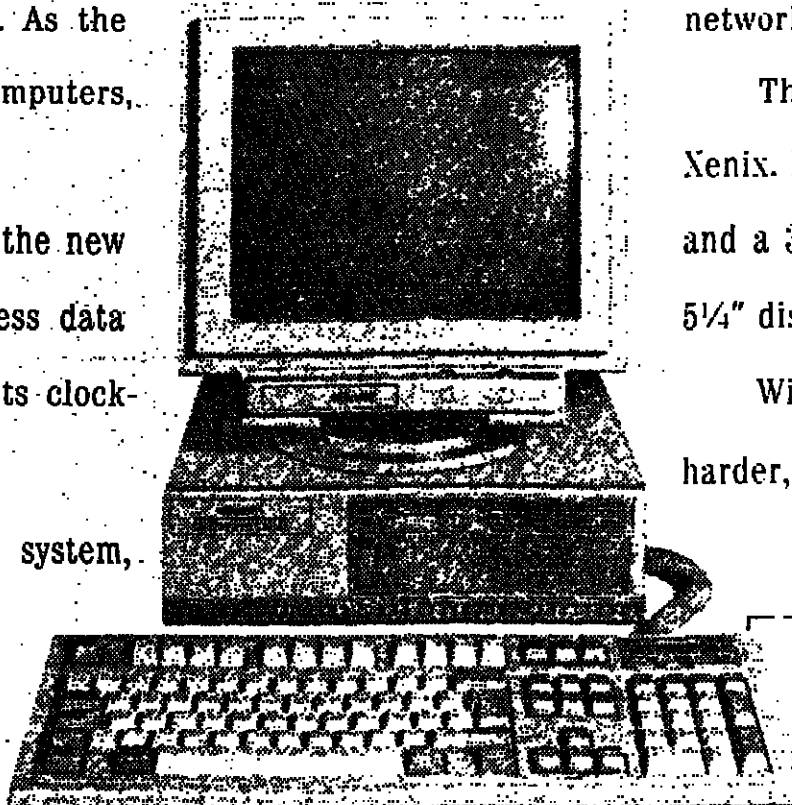
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Vilnius draws up plans to counter Moscow blockade

From Anatol Lieven, Vilnius

LITHUANIA intends to use the centralization and natural anarchy of the Soviet economic system itself to meet the reduction of supplies threatened by Moscow.

The consensus at a meeting of the Lithuanian presidium and government yesterday was, however, that there will not be a full-scale blockade.

The reasons are twofold: the international pressure which could result from an attempt to reduce Lithuania to destitution, and the desperately precarious economic position of the Soviet Union itself.

The threatened strike in the Siberian oil and gas fields of Tyumen underlines the dangers to Moscow and its desperate need for Western consumer goods to buy off Russian and Ukrainian working-class discontent.

The same applies to a lesser extent to Lithuania's own role in the Soviet economy. Centralization has done terrible damage to the republics, but also means that their

economies cannot simply be "shut down", or cut out of the whole, without damaging other areas.

Mr Algis Cekuolis, a leading Sajudis member with important contacts in Moscow, attended yesterday's meeting as an observer, and said afterwards that ministers had reassured the more anxious participants by pointing out that, because Lithuania is part of the western Soviet power-distribution grid, cutting off all Lithuanian electricity would also mean shutting down large areas of Belorussia and the Kaliningrad enclave.

The same applied to oil and gas supplies, since pipelines to Lithuania also served Kaliningrad. "To stop us taking our due supplies, they would have to put soldiers at every valve," he said. A huge oil refinery at Mazeikiai in northern Lithuania, moreover, processes a considerable part of the Soviet Union's refined petroleum exports. It is one of the "union factories" still under Mos-

cow's control and the subject of dispute between Moscow and Vilnius.

In addition, its workforce is largely Lithuanian, and it would be difficult for Moscow to prevent Lithuania drawing its supplies without occupying the plant or shutting it down.

Mr Cekuolis said the greatest fears of economic ministers and experts at yesterday's meeting were about supplies of metals, for which all three Baltic republics are entirely dependent on Moscow. Pressure in this and other areas is expected to begin soon.

The Lithuanian government is to attempt to match Moscow move for move, by demanding hard currency for goods exported to the rest of the Soviet Union. According to government aides, the letter to Mr Gorbachev drafted yesterday by Mrs Kazimiera Prunskiene, the Prime Minister, but not yet sent, asked him to specify which Soviet goods would have to be paid for in hard currency, so that Lithuania can make the appropriate response over its own supplies.

Economists like Professor Eduardas Vilkas, director of the Economic Institute, are less optimistic. Whereas the Soviet Union could sell its oil in the West for hard currency, he said, Lithuania would find it much more difficult to dispose of its sub-standard industrial goods, let alone its food - even if the Soviet Union does not block the exports.

A more powerful weapon may once again be the centralization of the Soviet economy. When the possibility of such pressure was first raised, Mrs Prunskiene said Lithuania had a near monopoly in certain limited but important fields, for example television picture tubes, vacuum-cleaner components, electrical measuring devices, and industrial furnaces.

Another factor on Lithuania's side is the growing anarchy of the Soviet economy, and the desperate attempts of individual managers and local authorities to obtain consumer goods and food to stave off mass public unrest.

Leading article, page 13

Emigrés fear 'secret deal'

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

THE West's muted response to President Gorbachev's threat to cut off supplies to Vilnius has stirred bitter feelings of abandonment among Lithuanians living in Britain.

They were far from impressed by the statements made by President Bush and Mrs Thatcher at the Bermuda summit on Friday. Mr Vlasas Dargis, editor of *The Lithuanian Weekly* in London, said, "Lithuanian expatriates believed the two had reached a secret deal with Russia."

"Mr Gorbachev has said he will not use force, yet he sent parachute forces there," Mr Dargis said. Mr Gorbachev had only to say he was not using force, knowing the West would choose to believe him.

The suspicion is that the West has agreed to turn a blind eye to the Lithuanian issue in exchange for Soviet

acquiescence to German reunification. Two representatives have been sent to London by President Landsbergis of Lithuania, but neither was received at Downing Street or by the Foreign Office. Whitehall officials held an informal meeting with one, Mr Algis Cekuolis, but Mr Dargis said Mr Cekuolis was "not very happy" with this limited contact. But the Foreign Office has apparently agreed to see Mr Juras Alis, Chairman of the Lithuanian Association, this week.

Then again, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's shadow foreign secretary, said in a BBC radio interview on Sunday that Lithuania was a constituent republic in the Soviet Union - and that Lithuanians should remember that if it were not for Mr Gorbachev, they would not be where they were today.



Little Easter cheer in last Stalinist state

From Richard Bennett, Shkoder, Albania

EASTER in Europe's last Stalinist state, where all religion is outlawed, passed seemingly unnoticed by the 40,000 Catholics who live in this north Albanian town, situated on Lake Scutari.

The former Catholic church, a 14th century building, was converted long ago to a sports stadium. Only its Romanesque apse protruding beyond the high gymnasium wall painted with volleyball lines recalls its centuries-old religious role.

Crucifixes, religious paintings, the trappings of what Enver Hoxha, the founder of modern Albania, described as the "rabbit pack of monarcho-fascists", have all been dismantled.

At the weekend, a line of policemen could be seen standing in front of the building but they were there, officials said, to prevent young Albanians entering the sports hall without a ticket for an important volleyball match.

Talk of religion is greeted in official circles at least with disbelief bordering on incredulity. "Our fathers were religious, we are not," is the oft-repeated refrain.

Reports of religious Albanians taking to the streets in recent months are vigorously denied here. "These reports by the Western media are a variety show for us," an official from the Institute of

International Relations insists, adding: "After the Romanian revolution I think the West expected something similar to happen here. But conditions in Albania are very different. Enver Hoxha knew 25 years ago what the West discovered only last Christmas about the proto-fascist Ceausescu."

In particular, the rumour that as many as 40,000 people took part in a religious protest in the southern city of Kavaja, or that a small bomb went off under Stalin's statue in Tirana, is considered "pure fantasy" by Albanian officials.

Other rumours that a small bomb was planted a few days ago outside the former tobacco shop Enver Hoxha ran in Tirana before the war, are dismissed with equal confidence, although a man in a brown coat takes up positions opposite the shop each evening now.

This year, Easter was celebrated by the Catholic and Orthodox Churches on the same day. In Shkoder, as well as Catholics there are about 35,000 Orthodox Albanians. But both groups, as the Atheist Museum points out, are only permitted to indulge in prayer within the privacy of their homes. Next to the Atheist Museum, a plaque commemorates the "successful assassination by a guerrilla group of a fascist agent in 1945".

Officials here underline what they consider to be the fundamentally alien quality religion holds for Albanians. Though there are as many as 450,000 Orthodox Albanians and at least 300,000 Catholics, their religious beliefs are seen as irrelevant.

"Religion was brought to Albania by invaders. Some Albanians were Catholics, some were Muslims but they were all first and foremost Albanians," an official outside the museum says. During the war, according to him, Catholic priests collaborated with the Nazis and Italian Fascists.

"The Germans and the Italians have reformed, but not the Vatican," he says. Albanian Catholics can follow on Italian and Yugoslav television the travels of the Pope. But those who remember the prayers of their childhood must recall them in silence, unaided by clergy. Like early Christians in the catacombs, the Albanians' religious life, such as it is, remains underground. But to the visible pride of the inhabitants of Shkoder, however, a Catholic church is being restored in the Rozafa Castle, perhaps the most spectacular of Albania's many dramatic castles, whose medieval walls dominate the town.

Albanian seeks refuge

AN ALBANIAN has sought refuge in the Greek Embassy in Tirana, and Greek and Albanian officials were discussing the matter yesterday, Greek sources said here.

Mr Bernard Kici, said to be a Catholic from Shkoder in northern Albania, has asked to go to Athens. Greek authorities are optimistic that the request will be examined by the Albanian authorities in a humanitarian spirit, the sources said.

Albania, Europe's last bastion of Stalinist-style totalitarian rule, allowed an Albanian of Greek origin to leave the country on March 13 after he had spent nine days in the Greek Embassy.

It is believed to be the first time that an ordinary citizen not on an official mission or going abroad to study has been allowed to leave for a Western country since the Second World War. (AFP)

Communists lose Slovenia election

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

THE communists in Yugoslavia's northern republic of Slovenia were defeated yesterday by the Demos coalition, the united right-of-centre bloc, which won 55 per cent of the vote in the first free parliamentary elections.

The elections marked both the end of communist rule in Slovenia and of Yugoslavia's federal structure as the Demos announced that they will pursue Slovenia's independence from Belgrade further afield.

The communists, who took a new name, "the Party of Democratic Reforms", won only 18 per cent of the vote.

The leader of Demos, Mr Jozef Pucnik, who is also one of the contenders for the post of the president of Slovenia in the election next Sunday, said afterwards: "We stand for an independent way to Slovenian statehood and sovereignty." Mr Pucnik intends to seek independence within the Yugoslav Federation, leaving open the option to break away should the effort fail.

Mr Pucnik, a former dissident who had spent many years in prison for his political

views has a radical nationalist faction in his coalition which is pressing hard for immediate cessation from the Yugoslav state. His only opponent in the presidential election will be Mr Milan Kucan, former leader of the Communist Party leader, who is largely credited for opposing Serbian centralism and thereby laying the ground for Slovenia's drive for autonomy.

On Sunday free elections are to be held in Croatia and the defeat of communists in both these republics would be bound to shake the already fragile fabric of the Yugoslav Federation.

Croatian voters will be choosing between two or three coalition blocs presenting different options for their republic's future in the Yugoslav Federation.

The radically nationalist Croatian Democratic Union with its leader, Dr Franjo Tudjman, a former partisan general and later dissident who spent several years in communist prisons, could attract votes playing heavily on Croatian fears of Serbian domination.

Romania rivals in clash

Bucharest SUPPORTERS and opponents of Romania's ruling National Salvation Front traded kicks and punches in a brawl in central Bucharest yesterday.

The rival groups clashed outside government headquarters on Victoria Square after 150 supporters of the Front demonstrated in favour of last week's decision to stop exiled King Michael from returning to Romania for Easter. Hundreds of passers-by, furious at a political demonstration during the religious holiday, attacked the marchers before police armed with assault rifles intervened.

Opponents of the Front, reflecting a widespread belief that it is riddled with former communists, shouted, "The NSF is the KGB" and "Give King Michael a visa".

The Front set up a provisional government after Nicolae Ceausescu, the communist dictator, was ousted in the December uprising. From its dominant position, it may win presidential and parliamentary elections set for May 20.

Mr Ion Ratiu, the presidential candidate for the opposition National Peasants Party, announced that he had forged a new centrist alliance to back his campaign. The alliance included four other centre parties - the Romanian National Party, the Christian Democratic Union, the Romanian Peasant Party and the Republican Union.

The parties told a news conference they backed Mr Ratiu on a common platform of "social justice and Christian morals" - his campaign slogan.

Mr Ratiu, aged 72, returned from 50 years of exile in Britain after the revolution, having become a millionaire in shipping and property.

He urged reconciliation after 45 years of communist dictatorship: "All Romanians were victims of communism, with the exception of the *nomenklatura* (bureaucrats) and *Securitate* (secret police)."

● PARIS: Romania has recalled Mr Alexandre Paleologu, its Ambassador to Paris. A French television station said yesterday he had criticized the Bucharest Government in an interview it broadcast on Thursday, accusing Mr Petre Roman, the Prime Minister, of lacking maturity. (Reuters)

Kremlin wants summit to proceed on course

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

IN SPITE of growing tensions over Lithuania, Moscow is hoping the Washington summit will go ahead as planned and will give President Gorbachev and President Bush an opportunity for face-to-face discussion on the future of Europe, senior officials here say.

In recent weeks, Moscow has appeared hesitant about changes in Europe. The US has accused the Russians of dragging their feet over arms control, and Soviet leaders are taking a tougher line on a united Germany's membership of Nato.

As *Pravda* made clear on Sunday, the Soviet Union is bracing itself for fall-out from the Lithuanian crisis. This has put Soviet diplomacy on hold. The Russians also appear unsure of where their real interests lie in the busy round of negotiations, discussions and summits planned this year.

A senior official, with unrivalled experience of the thinking of both Mr Gorbachev and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, said recently that Moscow was still hoping for agreement on banning chemical weapons and nuclear tests before the summit. But he admitted the Soviet leaders still had not worked out their thinking on German reunification, the long-term future of Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

and the future European security structure.

However, he said they had decided that German reunification was inevitable, manageable and would, in the long run, benefit the Soviet Union, especially economically.

Moscow realizes it is bound to lead to greater German influence in Europe, but does not fear this, in spite of historical precedents. "We have already had close relations with West Germany for the past 20 years without any problems," the official said.

However, Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand of France had much to lose, and had initially tried to use the Soviet Union to block reunification. "They wanted us to do their dirty work for them. Mrs Thatcher was disappointed the Soviet Union was not prepared to stand in the way."

He also detected unease among the Americans - clear from the senators' meeting with Mr Shevardnadze - at the prospect of a united Germany one day asking the US forces to leave, undercutting the basis of 40 years of American influence in West Europe.

"They are mistaken if they think Nato membership will guarantee that Germany remains tied to European structures. Nato is a treaty and anyone can leave it. I can

imagine a scenario when the US troops may be asked to go. And the Americans insist they will go if asked."

Moscow differed from Washington on two main points regarding German reunification. It wanted the "two plus four" talks to become a permanent future framework, whereas the United States saw them as a way of abolishing the four powers from responsibility for Germany; and it believed there should be a peace treaty to "draw a line under the Second World War".

The West supported the objection of Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, that this was an unnecessary humiliation.

The official accused the West of not taking into consideration the domestic political and public opinion difficulties of asking Moscow to accept East German membership of Nato. "We made this quite clear to Mr Hurd when he was here."

Moscow would like to see a continued US presence in Europe. But Nato and the Warsaw Pact could not continue as they were for ever. The Soviet Union wanted them replaced by the end of the century by a pan-European security structure based on the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE).

Letters, page 13

German unity talks likely soon

From Girard Steichen, Bonn

PRELIMINARY talks between the two Germanies and the four Allied powers on the course of German reunification could begin by the end of this month. A Bonn chancellery official said yesterday that the "two-plus-four" talks could be held in Bonn on April 26 and 27.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, has been pushing for the negotiations to begin soon.

The talks are aimed at resolving thorny questions of security and foreign policy that stand in the way of German reunification.

Representatives of the four Allied powers - Britain, the United States, France and the Soviet Union - and the two German governments face a lengthy negotiation process to determine the future security role of a united Germany.

After a four-day Easter weekend lull, officials in Bonn and East Berlin are also preparing a series of meetings to pave the way toward economic and currency union.

Working groups are drafting a treaty to make the Deutschmark the common currency. Both governments want currency union to be in place by July to rescue East Germany's battered economy.

Officials in Bonn said a meeting between Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chan-

cellor, and East Germany's new Prime Minister, Herr Lothar de Maiziere will be arranged after Herr Kohl returns from his holiday in Austria next week.

The two leaders have been in frequent telephone contact over the weekend. Herr de Maiziere is due to deliver his first state-of-the-nation address to the *Volkshammer* (Parliament) on Thursday.

Herr Helmut Haussmann, the West German Economics Minister, also hopes to meet his East German counterpart later this week. Herr Peter Michael Dietzel, the East German Interior Minister, is scheduled to visit Bonn tomorrow. Herr Dietzel is the first member of the East German Cabinet to visit West Germany since the formation of a new government in East Berlin last Thursday.

● EAST BERLIN: The recent formal East German apology to Jews around the world for the previously denied role played by East Germans in the Holocaust has been met with a mixture of relief and scepticism within East Berlin's 300-member Jewish community (John Holland writes).

Dr Peter Kirehner, head of the East Berlin Jewish community, told an Easter rally of Christians and Jews that a unified Germany "must not be overrun by renewed German nationalist feeling."

Soviet radicals told to leave party as ideological rift widens

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

THE battle between reformers and orthodox Communists intensified yesterday, when *Pravda* strongly attacked radicals who have won control of many cities, demanding that they leave the party rather than divide it.

A front-page leading article said the party had to defend itself from "extremist elements", singling out the Democratic Platform group, which it accused of trying to create a competing party.

The attack came as the newly elected radical Moscow City Council held its first meeting yesterday, a day after losing a power struggle with party conservatives over control of the capital's two newspapers. The 465-member council is firmly controlled by radicals of the Demo-

cratic Russia bloc, who won 60 per cent of the votes in last month's elections, and have announced plans for sweeping changes. Much of the battle will be fought over ownership of party assets, including many of the buildings in Moscow.

Their bitter criticism of the Communist Party, which controlled the city for 72 years, led to rising tensions, however, and the party hit back on Sunday. It announced that *Moskovskaya Pravda* and the evening newspaper, *Vechnaya Moskva*, would no longer be published jointly by the party and the city council but would come under the exclusive control of the party.

This deprives the radicals of an outlet to drum up support for their policies, which include a crash programme to re-house overcrowded families in vacant city

buildings, promises to repair the crumbling roads, and a programme to attract many more Western businessmen and their money to Moscow.

A brief item in *Moskovskaya Pravda* on Sunday said the split was necessary because of rising tensions between the radicals and Communists. This would make it hard for the papers to follow a consistent editorial line.

In theory, the city council can now start up a new paper, as a number of deputies have demanded, but it will take time and money to get going, and Moscow is virtually bankrupt.

The bloc, meanwhile, is also proposing sweeping reforms in the Russian Federation, where it won 370 of the 1,026 seats in the republic's parliament. On Saturday

the platform nominated Mr Boris Yeltsin, the maverick populist, as its candidate for president of the Russian Federation, an important post which would give Mr Yeltsin, a strong critic of President Gorbachev, a visible platform on which to campaign for swifter change throughout the country.

The Democratic Platform has been formulating policies which include, among other things, the priority of republican over national laws, of the soviets (people's councils) over the party hierarchies, the deputy's mandate over the party ticket, and the priority of citizens' rights over state interests.

Orthodox communists, however, are fighting back against the changes being proposed by radicals; both in Moscow, in republican parliaments and in the Supreme Soviet. *Pravda*,

which has ostensibly tried to promote unity, has sided with the conservatives.

Yesterday the newspaper also published a manifesto from another group formed within the party in the run-up to the July congress - the Marxist Platform, an ultra-orthodox faction which wants a return to Marxist-Leninist principles.

Admitting the country was in crisis, the group said the Soviet Union "faced a choice" either a reputation, more or less of capitalism as it has been for the past 100 years, or the way of "democracy and socialism". It said the present crisis had discredited the socialist ideal, but the party should return to "classic Marxism".

The newspaper was, however, vague in its prescription of how to deal with the economic situation.



Mr Yeltsin: Nominated to be Russian president

Bush wins black support despite rise in US racism

From Susan Elliott, Washington

PRESIDENT Bush, who already enjoys a record high approval rating among white Americans, is also the most popular Republican leader with black Americans since Eisenhower 30 years ago, opinion polls show.

Despite a gradual shift to the right among mainstream blacks, however, racial activism in some areas is growing, betraying a deterioration in black-white relations.

In Milwaukee, a peaceful city once known for its breweries on the shore of Lake Michigan, a city alderman has shocked white residents by threatening to create a black militia and use violence unless the city council moves to revitalize black neighbourhoods which have suffered from declining industry.

Across the country, young black men are flocking to join the Nation of Islam, led by the

Rev Louis Farrakhan, who is respected by the black community for his fiery rhetoric and pledges to clean up drug-ridden areas.

In an effort to calm whites who have tended to view the Muslims as little more than black nationalists, Mr Farrakhan recently told *The Washington Post*, in a rare media interview, that he wished to end perceptions that he was anti-Semitic.

Dr Russell Adams, the chairman of the department of Afro-American Studies at Howard University, said: "Race relations in America are at a low plateau, and that plateau has tendencies toward a serious downward tilt."

But Mr Bush is doing well in the eyes of black voters, helped by his calm appearance, the no-nonsense image of his wife, a growth of the black middle class and the

relative unpopularity of his predecessor.

Among whites he is more popular today than President Reagan ever was. Both blacks and whites say they look upon him more favourably now than one year into his term than before it began.

The results of a series of surveys by *The New York Times/CBS News* are likely to unnerve Democrats, who have enjoyed the loyal support of black Americans for at least a generation.

Many blacks interviewed for the most recent poll acknowledged they are well disposed toward Mr Bush, even if they think he is not doing enough to help blacks.

In their view, at least, he is doing nothing against them, unlike his predecessor, who was perceived by blacks as further to the right than Mr Bush.

As black Americans are turning away from the Democratic Party — the traditional political choice among blacks across the largely rural South — the Republican Party is hoping to retain its new recruits.

By appealing to voters on issues traditionally linked with the Democrats, many blacks now feel Mr Bush is addressing their needs, while the Democrats have not lived up to their promises.

A pledge by Mr Bush earlier this year to improve education for everyone was particularly well received, even if programs have not yet begun. "If it's not a promise, it says his heart is in the right place even if his wallet is in the vault," says Dr Adams. "And to have a heart in the right place but no money moving around is more important than having no heart at all."

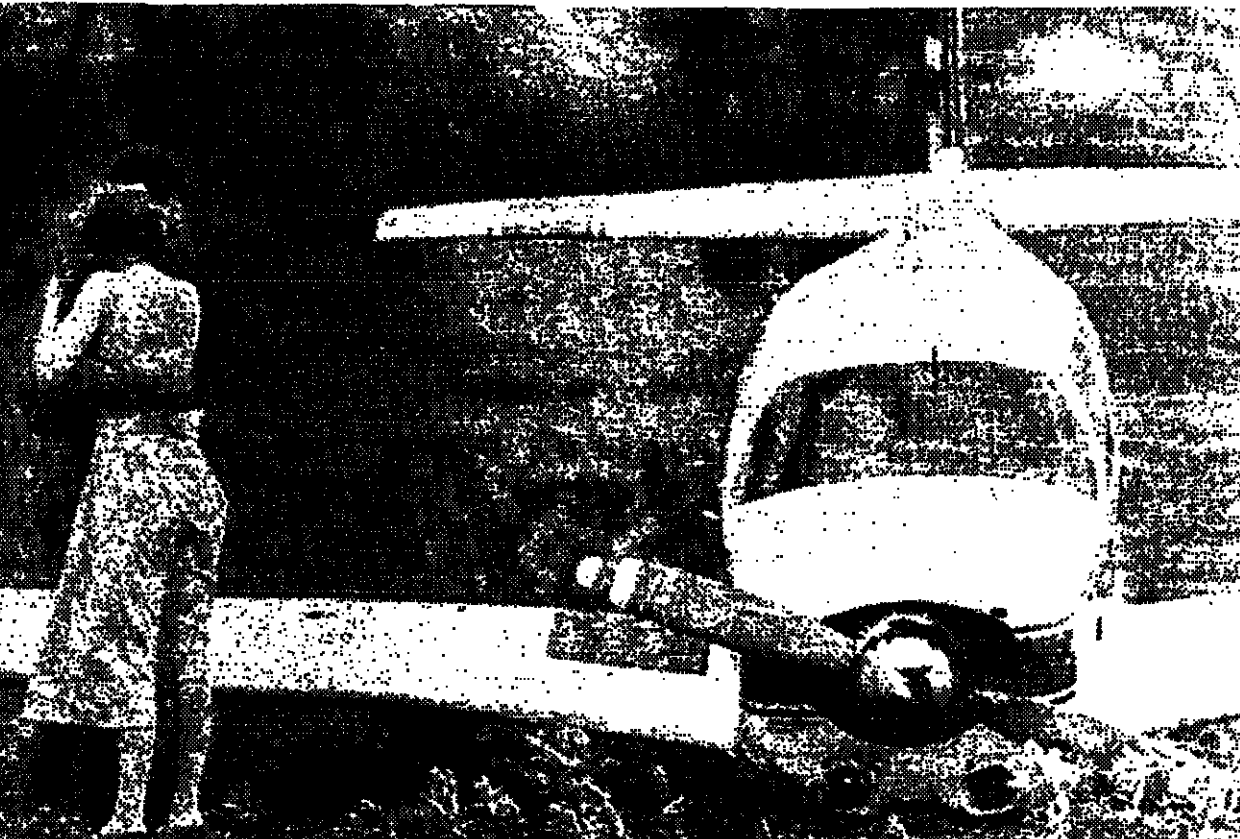
Black Americans appear to welcome Mr Bush's understated style — in contrast with the lavish White House entertaining under the Reagans. They also appreciate the homely values of his wife, Barbara, and the emphasis the Bushes place on family get-togethers and their love of the grandchildren.

Dr Adams, who is a Democrat, says many black Americans believe Mr Bush's concern for racial equality is genuine, especially when they learn he helped raise funds while a college student at Yale for tuition fees for blacks.

Even if his denunciation of bigotry in the State of the Union speech last January sounded contrived to critics, black Americans respect Mr Bush for such gestures.

Not all blacks share these views. Mr Michael McGee, a former Black Panther, one of the racial activists prevalent in America in the 1960s, recently rallied about 600 angry blacks in Milwaukee.

Flight of fancy comes down to earth



Mrs Seryl Karr helping her husband Ron after driving to the scene of his plane's forced landing, 20 miles north of San Antonio, Texas. Mr Karr's light aircraft developed engine failure on his flight from Oklahoma. He had been en route to pay his wife a surprise visit over the Easter holiday.

Protesters arrested in Tehran

Tehran — Iranian police arrested 65 people in northern Tehran who were shouting political slogans and disturbing the peace, press reports here said.

Newspapers also reported the arrest in southern Tehran of "hooligans" who were marking the funeral of Aref Vazirizadeh, an outlaw who was killed on Monday last week by police who had come to arrest him. (AFP)

Train disaster toll over 100

Delhi — More than 100 people died in one of India's worst train disasters as a blaze swept through two carriages in the northern state of Bihar (Christopher Thomas writes).

In another disaster, 31 people, including 15 children, died of food poisoning after a marriage feast.

Curfew relaxed in Kashmir

Delhi — India relaxed a shoot-on-sight curfew in the Kashmir capital of Srinagar for two hours yesterday (Christopher Thomas writes).

In the rare respite, huge numbers of people took to the streets to buy food.

Rhino action earns award

San Francisco — A Kenyan who walked miles to save black rhinos will share a new \$360,000 (£220,000) environmental prize.

The awards are to be given annually by the Goldman Environmental Foundation. (Reuters)

Six die from laced heroin

Marseille — Six people in Marseille have died and another four are paralysed after injecting themselves with contaminated heroin (Philip Jacobson writes).

Forensic experts said the substance is believed to be rat poison.

Trigger claims denied by Iraq

Baghdad — Iraq, denying US claims that nuclear-bomb triggers were to be smuggled to Baghdad, said the alleged detonators were for a university laser project.

They were "for use in a carbonic laser system at Baghdad's Technological University", said a spokesman for the Ministry of Industry. (Reuters)

South Africa assembly prepares its own funeral

From Gavin Bell, Cape Town

HAUNTED by the ghosts of an imperial past and the spectre of an uncertain future, the South African Parliament has become a paradox.

A monument to white supremacy, it continues to impose the vestiges of apartheid on a hostile population while preparing to legislate itself out of existence.

The reforms that President de Klerk is carrying out pre-empt the dismantling of the tricameral parliamentary system, from which blacks are excluded, and its replacement by an as yet undefined power-sharing arrangement with the black majority under a new constitution. Mr de Klerk wishes to complete the process before his term expires in 1994, thus the last act of the present Parliament may be to preside over its funeral rites.

Instituted in 1983, the system comprises three chambers, each representing a racial minority according to an entrenched formula of 42:1:178 white members, 85 Coloureds (mixed race) and 45 Indians. Regarded as a travesty of democracy by the disenfranchised blacks, it is viewed with equal contempt by the majority of Indians and Coloureds. An elaborate rubber stamp for government policies, it retains the super-

ficial trappings of the British model on which the original Cape Parliament was constructed in 1885.

Like the House of Commons at Westminster, the all-white House of Assembly is a rectangular auditorium of dark wood and green leather benches, on which nationalist members sit on the Speaker's right hand facing the opposition forces of the right-wing Conservative Party and the liberal Democratic Party.

An enormous golden mace rests between them as ushers in green livery pad about with water decanters. Nobody is fiddling while the state burns, but debates on waste disposal seem irrelevant to the momentous political developments taking place.

Mr Dean van der Merwe (Conservative) enlivened proceedings recently by engaging in a verbal slanging match with Mr Harry Schwarz (Democrat) over the flying of Nazi flags and the burning of an Israeli flag at a right-wing rally. "You don't want the Jews and Arabs to have power-sharing," Mr Van der Merwe shouted amid uproar. "I knew you would come with the Jews," Mr Schwarz fired back. "You and your people burned the flag of Israel."

Mr Kobie Coetsee, the Jus-

tice Minister, wittily recited the fimerick about a young lady from Riga who went for a ride on the back of a tiger, as a preface to announcing a government victory in a general election recount. Opposition members were not amused by the inference that the Nationalist tiger had devoured the Conservative lady.

Mr Koos van der Merwe (Conservative) asked Mr Coetsee: "Is the minister prepared to accept Nelson Mandela as State President in the new South Africa?"

"The member is suffering from a Mandela psychosis," Mr Coetsee retorted. "Mandela fever has gripped the Conservative Party!"

In an adjacent room guarded by a bust of Cecil Rhodes, portraits of King Edward VII and a youthful Queen Victoria gaze on a replica of the mace at Westminster as a gift on the birth of the Union of South Africa in 1910. A large canvas depicts King George VI opening the South African parliament in 1947.

An usher walks by with a newspaper reporting a speech by Mr Mandela with banner headlines. The past and future mingle uneasily in the first and last white Parliament in Africa.

World Cup blues in Italy

From Paul Bonnard Rome

ITALIAN euphoria at hosting the World Cup in June is rapidly turning into anger and foreboding. For months, millions of Italians have endured untold hardship because of public works that have turned the already chaotic traffic in the main cities into a mechanized version of Dante's *Inferno*.

New roads, new telephone lines, new stadiums, new urban railways have turned Rome, for instance, into one huge building site.

All has been borne with stoicism in the name of a sports event that should be a showcase of Italian efficiency. For months, commuters caught in their twice-daily one-hour traffic jam have murmured "Mondiali, i Mondiali, i Mondiali" like a soothing mantra to ward off ulcers or an uncontrolled fist through the windshield.

But recent events have made a mockery of this very un-Italian stolidity. Last week, the Minister for Urban Areas, in the front line of the Mondiale struggle, reported to Parliament that many construction projects would not be ready in time, and that most of them would cost about twice what the taxpayer had bargained for.

The latest forecast is of 5,433 billion lire (£2,700 million) for 236 projects in various cities, compared to an original estimate of 3,149 billion lire (£1,550 million).

It turns out, for instance, that construction of a new commuter railway tunnel on the outskirts of Rome, which has paralysed traffic for months, has been miscalculated. It is too narrow for a two-way system. It will be used as a single-line shuttle during the World Cup and then work will have to start all over again.

To add insult to injury, the National Union of Flower Growers announced that Italy's stadiums would not be adorned with millions of flowers as planned unless the Government paid more than the 580 million lire (£280,000) originally earmarked for the purpose.

Work on the Mondiale projects, which Italians have been assured will improve their cities for decades to come, is now surging ahead at breakneck speed. There have been 24 fatal and 654 non-fatal accidents on Mondiale building sites, an accident rate 15 times higher than normal.

Soviet missiles offer rejected

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

A SOVIET suggestion that sea-based nuclear missiles be included in a new round of strategic arms (Start) negotiations after the expected signing of a Start One treaty this year has been rebuffed by Mr Richard Cheney, the United States Defence Secretary.

President Gorbachev made the suggestion in response to Washington's proposal last month that a second round of Start negotiations should concentrate on banning land-based multiple-warhead missiles (MIRVs).

In a letter to President Bush, Mr Gorbachev complained that the proposal was one-sided because it concentrated on land-based missiles, an area of Soviet strength, and ignored both submarine and bomber weapons, in which the US had the advantage.

In an interview in *The New York Times* yesterday, Mr Cheney said banning MIRVs made sense because they were attractive targets which could encourage a pre-emptive strike and were therefore destabilizing.

That argument did not apply to sea-based missiles because they were deployed on relatively invulnerable submarines.

"The argument for 'do-mirving' is that land-based missiles make attractive targets. With MIRVs deployed at sea, that piece of the argument goes away," he said.

Mr Cheney, in the Administration's first public response to the Soviet counter-

proposal, also argued that the Soviet side might eventually go along with the US proposal without concessions on either submarine or bomber-borne weapons.

Noting that the Soviet Union was already deploying large numbers of single-warhead SS25 land-based missiles, he said: "They've clearly already made the judgement to invest a significant amount in their own single-warhead land-based system."

In a separate development, the Pentagon has drawn up plans — yet to be approved by Mr Cheney — for cutting the numbers of both active-duty army troops and front-line air force jet fighters by about a quarter by the end of 1997, according to reports here yesterday.

The Army is proposing to cut troops from 764,000 to 580,000, a reduction of 23 per cent, a reduction Mr Cheney when he unveiled the Pentagon budget requests last January and at the lowest level in 40 years.

The US Air Force would lose seven of its 35 fighter wings, two more than expected. Each wing has up to 72 aircraft, and considerably more than 300 high-performance aircraft would be phased out. The Air Force is also said to be considering a cut of another 45,000 uniformed personnel in an effort to save such costly programmes as the B2 Stealth bomber, Stealth fighters and the C17 transport plane.

Vigil for British hostage

By Michael Knight Diplomatic Correspondent

TODAY'S fourth anniversary of the disappearance in Beirut of John McCarthy, the journalist hostage, is being marked by a series of events.

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will read the Lesson in a service at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, and the Institute of Journalists will present a gold medal in absentia to Mr McCarthy, which will be accepted by Mr Patrick McCarthy, his father.

In addition, *Friendship*, a book of short stories with contributions by Graham Greene, Samuel Beckett, Ronald Dahl and Martin Amis, and illustrated by Ralph Steadman, is being published. Jean-Paul Kauffman, the



Mr McCarthy. Abducted in Beirut four years ago

French correspondent held for three years after being abducted in Beirut, is expected to take part in an afternoon vigil outside the former Iranian Embassy.

Mrs Glynis Kinnoch is also

expected, and some of the participants intend to maintain the vigil, organized by the Friends of John McCarthy, blindfolded and in chains to highlight the conditions he is believed to be enduring.

● BEIRUT: Tension ran high in west Beirut yesterday when rival Shia gunmen exchanged sporadic fire after the assassination of a security official from the mainstream Shia Amal movement (A Correspondent writes).

Police said gunmen in a speeding car, brandishing machine-guns and pistols, shot Ali Aboul Hasan, aged 35, in the head and chest. He died at once.

Immediately after the incident, Amal gunmen took to the streets, leading the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) to respond.

Video game puts the brakes on America's unsafe drivers

From Charles Bremner, New York

YOU have a fight with your wife, storm out and jump into the car. But the car refuses to start because it has determined that you are too upset to drive.

Americans may not be clamouring for the arrival of such smart-aleck transport, but the technology has already been developed and stationary versions are being applied by three California transport companies.

Bus drivers at the Old Town Trolley firm in San Diego, for example, are required to perform a version of a simple video game for half a minute before they take to the road. The computer determines if they are functioning normally or if their performance is impaired for any reason, whether from alcohol, drugs or through fatigue or emotional stress. One young driver

failed the test two days running in San Diego. His employers discovered that he had just broken off his engagement. "That sort of me in the machine," said Mr Don Harrison, the manager.

The video device is one of several types being tested by American companies as an accurate and non-intrusive alternative to requiring breath tests or blood and urine samples from employees. Police are testing portable versions and, given the growing concern over the havoc wrought on America's roads, rail and waterways by impaired drivers, the devices may eventually be required in vehicles. They would disable the ignition if the driver failed the video task. These consist of twiddling knobs to keep a wandering electronic pointer

in the centre of a screen. The machine measures the employee's performance against his average, which is stored in memory.

The Factor One system, marketed by Performance Factors of Emeryville, uses a concept developed in the 1960s to test the "psycho-motor performance" — largely co-ordination and reaction times — of pilots and astronauts.

At a time when the American courts are clogged with suits from drivers and machine operators over the imposition of random tests for drugs and alcohol, the clean electronic method is winning widespread praise. Supporters, including the armed forces and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) are hailing it as a breakthrough because it does not invade

privacy and provides a rapid way of detecting the effects of drugs.

"For certain jobs, I think it's the answer we've all been looking for," said Mr Lewis Malby, an ACLU official who specializes in workplace issues. "It's a way of providing public safety in a way that is consistent with all the civil liberties we think are important." While the video devices detect immediate disability, the experts are pointing out limitations. For a start, more research is needed to determine how they may apply to tasks which require more complicated intellectual functions.

The electronic method also works only in the present. It cannot substitute for the urine tests used to find out if employees have used drugs in the recent past.

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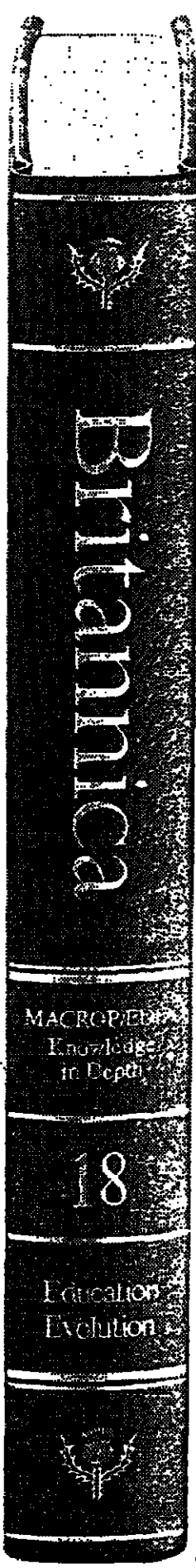
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King bows to calls for multi-party democracy in Nepal

From Christopher Thomas, Delhi

KING Birendra of Nepal bowed to a powerful campaign for multi-party democracy yesterday and asked its leader to head an interim government expected to lead to elections.

"Ganesh Man Singh has been told verbally by the King to form an interim government and be its Prime Minister. Singh is now talking to party men about it," Mr M.S. Basnet, a senior official of Mr Singh's Nepali Congress Party, said.

Mr Basnet said the King made the offer at a meeting with Mr Singh at his palace last night, hours after the monarch had conceded to most of the demands made by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy.

Earlier the King dissolved Parliament and dismissed the Government in the face of threats by newly legalized political parties to launch a new wave of mass demonstrations.

The King's decision was announced in a royal proclamation which he read over Radio Nepal, signalling the end of the partyless *panchayat* system that has governed the country for 30 years.

The announcement came as protests aimed directly against the King were heard in Kath-

mandu for the first time, raising questions about the security of his position as monarch. The slogan, "King Birendra, leave the country," was being shouted by students.

In an outbreak of violence yesterday, an angry mob set fire to furniture and reels of film at a cinema after it showed a film starring a policeman the crowd said had taken part in the recent shooting of demonstrators in Lalitpur, a Kathmandu suburb.

King Birendra, referring to the new atmosphere after the legalization of political parties eight days ago, said he hoped politicians would always keep the national interest uppermost.

Politicians and the palace are locked in an increasingly acrimonious dispute over the powers that the King will retain under multi-party democracy. Political parties say he must give up all powers and become a British-style constitutional monarch, something the King is resisting.

The royal proclamation was issued six hours after a siege ended at the Royal Nepal Academy where talks between representatives of political parties and the Government began on Sunday. The siege

lasted for 15 hours, preventing both sides from leaving. The Prime Minister was forced to stay in the building after crowds stoned his car when he attempted to leave.

Political leaders said after the talks that the King had conceded to their main demands for abolishing the *panchayat* system of government at national and local level.

The next step is to try to establish a Cabinet. Party leaders are willing to include pro-King loyalists as ministers although they say the Prime Minister must be from the Nepali Congress. But some younger militants are insisting that *panchayat* supporters should be excluded.

A commission has yet to be established to amend the constitution to remove the word "partyless" and to ensure the new system of multi-party democracy. The membership of that body, too, is likely to cause a great deal of argument. The royal palace wants it to include loyalists as well as opposition politicians.

Despite the palace concessions, the pro-democracy movement appears to be moving increasingly towards a direct confrontation with the King. Until now it has sought only to bring down the



Protesters surrounding the outgoing Prime Minister's car in Kathmandu after the vehicle had been stoned

panchayat system and to wrest powers from the monarchy; it has not, until now, threatened to turn its protest into a personal attack on the King. Nepal faces a period of acute political uncertainty in which there will be no real central authority. The crucial questions of how many powers the

King will relinquish, and when a general election might be held, have yet to be resolved.

At local level, too, Nepal will be left without any formal system of government until after a national election is finally held, which seems certain to be at least a year

away. The decision to disband the several thousand local *panchayats* will mean the administration of basic services at town and village level will be under the sole charge of regional civil servants.

Palace officials say the swift dissolution of the national parliament will cause legal

problems because it has not had time to pass essential legislation flowing from the decision to legalize political parties. The outgoing Prime Minister had suggested postponing its dissolution for two or three months, but Nepal's newly liberated politicians are in no mood to wait.

Aquino guard trained by UK

By Vivienne Teodoro Manila and Michael Knappe

BRITISH Army counter-terrorist specialists are helping to train the President's guard in the Philippines.

This was disclosed by President Aquino at a press conference in Manila yesterday and was later confirmed by the Foreign Office in London.

Mrs Aquino denied allegations that British mercenaries were involved in the training of Philippine military forces.

But the President said training was being provided free of charge by a small team of British military personnel as part of Britain's aid package to the Philippines.

The aim, according to Mrs Aquino, was to improve the Government's defence measures against renewed coup threats.

The team was providing training only to the elite Presidential Security Guard, which numbers about 3,000, she said.

The British Embassy declined to say if the team of about a dozen experts who arrived in Manila last week was providing counter-terrorist defence training to Mrs Aquino's security men.

An embassy official said the team had been brought in at the request of the Government of the Philippines, and that the army experts would stay for only a limited time.

Mrs Aquino has survived six coup attempts in the past four years.

Philippine military officials have said that right-wing groups have in recent weeks stepped up their campaign to solicit support from the military.

The Philippines authorities recently imposed additional tight security measures around military camps in the metropolitan Manila area amid fresh threats of another coup attempt by right-wing groups.

The right-wing elements have warned that they will attack the members of the British military team if they are not withdrawn from the country.

On Friday a group of self-proclaimed military rebels, the Young Officers Union, accused British mercenaries of training Philippine troops in counter-assault techniques, and warned them to leave the country at once or face what it described as "drastic action".

Government ministers said the continuing talk of another coup attempt was harming the country.

Shot Briton tells of ordeal as troops attacked protesters

JULIAN HERBERT



Reliving a nightmare: Mr Reid recovering in Queen Mary University Hospital, London yesterday

MR ANDREW Reid, a British barrister and writer, is recovering in hospital in London after being shot in Kathmandu by what he believes was a dum-dum bullet.

A single shot fired by Nepalese troops or police at the height of recent pro-democracy demonstrations destroyed the lower part of his right leg, which has had to be amputated. He told reporters that doctors had told him the damage was consistent with a dum-dum bullet, which disintegrates on impact, leaving a gaping wound.

Bullets of this type are

banned under international conventions, but Mr Reid doubts that there was an official order to use them. He thinks it more likely that an embittered soldier tampered with a normal bullet. He believes it was intended for one of a group of youths, preparing to throw a Molotov cocktail, whom Mr Reid had photographed moments before he was shot.

"I felt a strange blow and looked down to see my right leg apparently exploding," he said. Within seconds, four young Nepalese picked him up and carried him towards

the troops, who allowed him to be taken to hospital.

Mr Reid said his rescuers showed no thought for their own safety, even though the troops had shot another demonstrator minutes before. He had photographed a group carrying the man away with blood pouring from his side. He later heard that the man had died.

In the hospital he lay on a stretcher on the floor among hundreds of injured people awaiting treatment, their groans mingling with the crackle of gunfire outside. He was later flown home for

treatment at Queen Mary University Hospital, Roehampton, where he is expected to be fitted with an artificial limb.

Mr Reid, formerly a barrister defending criminal cases in London, had left Britain three years ago to travel and write. He was working on a book when he arrived in Nepal, three weeks before being shot.

After observing a number of demonstrations, he had believed he was in no danger from either side. On the day he was shot, April 6, large numbers of tourists, just as unaware of the danger, were in the streets, partly because their hotels had refused to serve them meals as a gesture of solidarity with the demonstrators.

One American had filmed his family shouting, "We want democracy," against a backdrop of demonstrators.

The mood of relative good

humour changed dramatically when the authorities tried to end the demonstration.

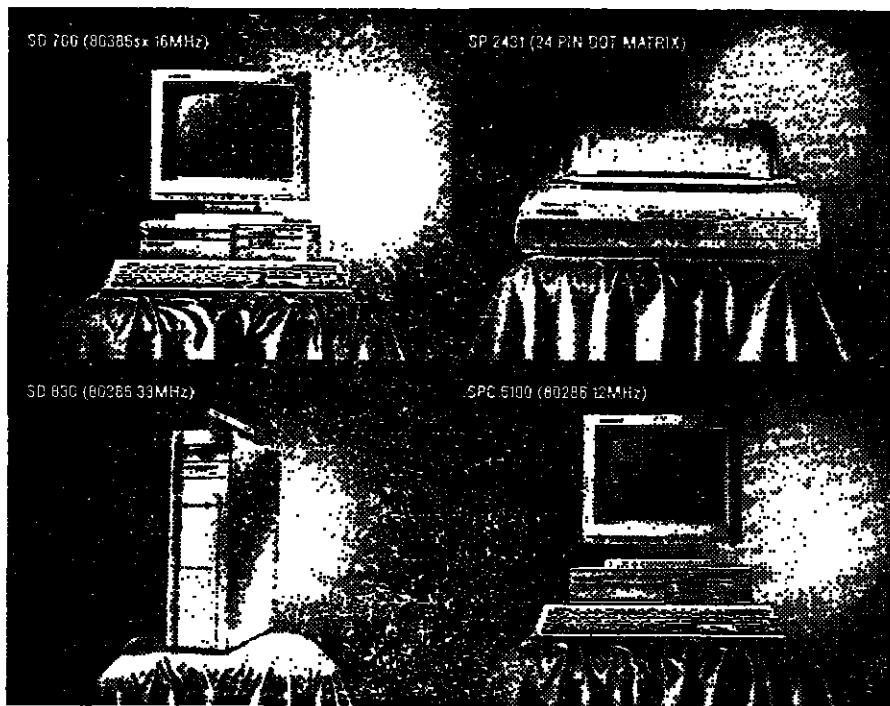
Masked youths carrying bottles of petrol appeared and troops responded with volleys of shots.

At first, demonstrators assumed the troops were firing into the air until some of them began falling, Mr Reid said. His photographs showed the crowd's initial response was one of disbelief.

Later, in hospital, he was approached by one of his leaders who thanked him for his blood. "I didn't want to disappoint him by saying it was not entirely a voluntary donation, but I understood what he meant," Mr Reid said.

Three young British tourists had also gone to his aid and stayed with him for hours while he waited for treatment. They were still there when he came round after the amputation.

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Ten years on, blacks' faith in Mugabe at all-time low

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

THE most startling change in Zimbabwe on the tenth anniversary of independence tomorrow is the attitude of blacks and whites to President Mugabe.

In 1980, blacks were euphoric about the leader who had promised them a socialist revolution, while whites dreaded him. In 1990, it is the whites, especially the farmers, who are loudest in praising "old Bob", but Mr Mugabe's standing among the *poor* — the blacks who account for 99 per cent of the population — is at an all-time low.

"We heard about this elsewhere in Africa, but we did not think it could happen in our Zimbabwe. The fat cats at the top get fatter, while we are crying," says Mr Patrick Masopane, an office worker in Harare.

Meeting black aspirations on pay, land distribution, health care and education was one of Mr Mugabe's biggest tasks at independence. These issues have been addressed with varying success, but the effect has been nullified by inflation, economic stagnation and corruption. At the same time, Mr Mugabe has encountered mounting unemployment.

"The crisis of expectations", as it was termed at independence, has come home to roost.

Last month's election clearly exposed public disaffection with the Government. Mr Mugabe himself, evidently sensing the national mood, ended a long period of seclusion and foreign travel to be seen in public and campaigned harder than he has ever done. Despite his efforts, and blatant intimidation of the opposition, barely 54 per cent of the electorate bothered to vote and only 40 per cent backed the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

The change in the public's perception of the President dates from the unity agreement in December, 1987 between Mr Mugabe and Mr Joshua Nkomo, then opposition leader, which resolved the six-year crisis in Matabeleland. Public attention

switched from security problems to issues which had been steadily biting black workers harder — in their pockets.

Mr Nkosana Ngumi, a former guerrilla in the independence struggle, now an aid worker, says: "I am very dissatisfied with the Government's record on development. To put a black man in a white man's job, or a black family in a white family's house, is not development. We need more jobs and more houses, and the Government is not providing them."

Statistics tell part of the story: 1.5 million out of the 9.2



Mr Mugabe: Whites are full of praise for him

million population are out of work. At the end of this year, 331,000 pupils will leave school to compete for 10,000 jobs in the formal sector. While the introduction of a statutory wage in 1980 temporarily raised living standards, wages are 15 per cent below their 1980 purchasing power. Blacks everywhere — but especially those employed in the commercial and industrial sectors — are having to cope with discomfort and shortages.

Mr Morgan Tsvangirayi, secretary-general of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, and an advocate of economic reform, blames the Government's failure to produce a comprehensive programme for the lack of investment and shortage of foreign exchange capital. "We have experienced five years of economic decay," he says.

The most visible sign of this is transport. Most blacks are forced to rely on bus services which barely operate and, on some routes, have ceased altogether, or on unofficial and expensive taxis. The choice is between rising at 5am to get to work on time, or spending around 20 per cent of their wages to do so. Ministerial motorcades of Mercedes Benz limousines attract jaundiced eyes.

Against this background, the disclosure last year of large-scale official corruption over the distribution of motor vehicles, of which there is a critical shortage, had a profound effect in spreading disillusionment. Numerous senior officials were implicated in profiteering by a judicial inquiry, five ministers were forced to resign, and one committed suicide.

Protests at the university in Harare were suppressed. The campus was closed last November, and student leaders were detained. So was Mr Tsvangirayi who has supported the students. Released without charge after six weeks, Mr Tsvangirayi is characteristic of a new willingness among blacks to criticize their Government openly.

The view from Mr Mugabe's constituency is not, however, universally bleak. Mr Fanus Ranga, aged 52, counts himself one of the lucky ones. Earning Zim\$600 (£150) a month as a clerk in Harare, he owns 12 acres of land about 100 miles to the north of the capital. With judicious management of his income, and the efforts of his wife on the land, he has bought a tractor to expand cultivation.

Achievements have also been made in three ambitious government schemes — education, health and, in a lesser extent, land resettlement. The school population rose from 885,000 in 1979 to 2.7 million in 1985, and more pupils are staying on for O and A levels. On health, immunization of children is up from 20 per cent to 67 per cent, and infant mortality has been halved.

GRETA GARBO: AN APPRECIATION

The last of the legends

It seems to me that nobody, in the ordinary sense of the words, knew her. There were people who knew her intimately, but nobody knew Greta Garbo in a manner which allowed them to ask her around for a drink. It is a career of remoteness and splendour. In an age when a professional journalist can talk with the most distinguished, the most powerful, the greatest, nobody talked to her. It is half of her extraordinary quality: the other half is a beauty which exceeded the physical.

It was in the days of the silent cinema, in the 1920s, the true beginning of the adoration of stars, that we first heard her name. Her earliest films came from Sweden, and in the mid-Twenties nobody bothered much about Swedish cinema. But she had a director, Mauritz Stiller, recognized something out of the ordinary in the girl who played for him in *The Attraction of Gösta Berling*, where she was pursued, by wolves, and when Hollywood made advances he accepted and took her with him.

Their story becomes a version of Pygmalion. The girl bewitched the public and her first creator, overshadowed, was forgotten; he dies within a few years. And Garbo became a star in a way nobody is a star any longer. Today a star would personally to assassinate the President of the United States and take over Mr Garbo's job to achieve the celebrity enjoyed by Garbo in the late Twenties and the Thirties. "Garbo Talks!" they announced when *Anna Christie* appeared in 1930 and the fabulous husky voice was first heard. Nobody would care today if one of the current Hollywood beauties (who extingish themselves by all looking like one another) played *Gone With the Wind* in Chinese.

Garbo never came to England on a promotional tour: she didn't need that sort of publicity. Only Chaplin exceeded her fame. A comedian could conquer the world; a Russian audience didn't need to hear the joke, and even in the days when Chaplin, too, agreed to speak, they could see it and that was enough. But among the women who played drama Garbo was supreme.

In the Thirties the famous films succeeded one another: *Queen Christina*, *Anna Karenina* — they were liked by women as much, probably more than by men: the beauty was not strengthened by the usual sexual appeal. I have to admit that it was only later that I saw most of the famous films. I remember seeing *Romance* (1930); I was in rather grudging masculine company, and the reactions were not seriously critical; but after 60 years I have not forgotten. Only at the end of the Thirties, when I was beginning work as a film critic, did I try to catch up with the body of work. Foolishly at the time I did not want to meet performers: I had puritanical notions about avoiding personal acquaintance.

I learnt better later and made an effort to meet Garbo; I wrote to a famous photographer who was her personal friend. In his reply he said it was useless; she would see no journalists. I still have questions. I have sometimes felt she had failed, in her self-inflicted silences, to acknowledge the influence of Stiller. Most of all I should like to know more about

her reactions to the roles she was assigned. They include trivial romantic characters; only once, in *Anna Karenina*, was she given a chance with the work of a master, and then her performance as the mother excluded from her own child is heartbreaking. But the answers are lacking, we are left with the shadow on the screen.

For some people *Queen Christina* (1931) is her best film: the woman reacting against the femininity enforced on her, the transformation by love — the performance has remarkable insight into human relationships. I think her playing in *Camille* shows her at her height. Directed by George Cukor, it has her playing against the young Robert Taylor; she is a triumphant figure reduced to solitude and death; and she is incomparable. For once the cinema, which lives by records of love, seems to belong to the emotion. It is a version of one of the popular romantic fictions which survive against better

The name is indestructible — just by the look and the voice she could wring the heart; the cinema shrinks without her

works; Garbo lifts it into the company of the classics. There are occasions when the cinema translates the second best; this is one of them.

Garbo was already at the end of her greatest years when I was beginning to look seriously at the cinema. In 1939 the headline announced "Garbo Laughs!" as *Ninotchka* appeared. It was something new from that face, so

often a face of suffering. As the Russian envoy sent to recover three errant colleagues from the lures of America she does indeed suffer when back in Moscow without her American lover; but there are ravishing moments when she relaxes, in a way the film shows her at her most interesting as an actress. Two years later she played in another comedy, *Two-Faced Woman*. It was far from bad, but the public was cold. Perhaps people wanted the familiar romantic heroine; perhaps even that would not have suited the times. Garbo was not accustomed to failure. She never acted again.

The question is whether she was really an actress. In New York in the last days she clung to her secrecy; after 60 years she was still a great name. The news of her death is a shock. One thought she was immortal. On the screen there was something elusive about her. There were deplorable performances (*Mata Hari*, for instance); yet the name is indestructible. Just by the look and the voice she could wring hearts; the cinema shrinks without her. It is her self which those of us who saw her treasure. Miraculously we forget half a dozen films about nothing, about the commonplace stuff of the screen, and think about her beauty — but something beyond beauty.

Anthony Asquith once told me that on some set in Hollywood he had seen a girl coming out of her room. He did not know who she was; but he knew she was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. It was Garbo. He had never forgotten, as none of us who saw her at her best have ever forgotten. It was something more than the outline of features; it was a presence. In films she did not care about she extinguished it. It is as simple, and as mysterious, as that.

Dilys Powell

The author was film critic of *The Sunday Times*, 1939-76



Garbo in 1932, at the release of *Mata Hari*, by the MGM photographer Clarence Sinclair Bull who was her exclusive studio photographer from 1929 until her retirement. During the years of their relationship he shot more than 2,000 negatives

Greta Garbo, legendary star of the cinema's golden age, has died in New York at the age of 84. She was born in Stockholm on September 18, 1905.

Greta Garbo's real name was Greta Lovisa Gustafsson and she came of a long line of Swedish farmers. Her father died when she was 14, and she took her first job as a "soap lather girl" in a barber's shop, a common enough occupation for a young woman of the period. It was at this time that she first began dreaming of a stage career. In the summer of 1920 she went to work as an assistant at "Pub", one of Stockholm's largest department stores. When the store decided to make a short advertising feature about women's clothes, Garbo was invited, as an afterthought, to appear in a small, semi-comic sequence to demonstrate what *not* to wear.

She appeared in several more small commercial films, and then was given a part as a bathing beauty in a cheap picture called *Peter the Tramp*, but her performance aroused little interest, so she gave up her work and became a student at the Royal Dramatic Theatre Academy. When, in 1923, Mauritz Stiller, the leading Swedish film director, asked the academy to recommend a promising young actress to him, her name was at once put forward.

The Svengali-like influence

which the flamboyant Stiller is said to have had over the young girl may well have been exaggerated, but his was a dominating character. He bullied her, praised her and cajoled her. He also told her she was too fat. Shortly after his first interview with her, he chose her for a leading part in his film *The Attraction of Gösta Berling*, and made her change her name to Garbo.

At this time Berlin was the centre of European film production, and Stiller took his picture and his leading lady there, where he allowed her to make *The Joyless Street*, directed by G. W. Pabst. Garbo played the part of a prostitute.

Her performance was far from perfect. Yet of it, James Agate wrote: "To the critical eye the hardly begun symphony of Garbo's acting is more worthwhile than any other score complete to its last double bar."

About this time, Louis B. Mayer, the head of the newly formed Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer company, was in Paris, and asked to meet Stiller and see one of his films. The two sat down together to watch *The Attraction of Gösta Berling*. Opinions differ as to what happened, but the outcome was that Stiller and Garbo set out for Hollywood in July 1925. Their arrival passed almost unnoticed.

Her first film for MGM was *The*

Torrent, directed by Monta Bell. Stiller was chosen to direct her second picture for MGM, *The Temptress*, but proved so difficult that he was replaced by Fred Niblo. *The Temptress* proved to be an indifferent film, but Garbo's talent was apparent and it was generally well received.

A turning point in her film career had now arrived. For her third American film, *Flesh and the Devil*, Garbo was given a new director, Clarence Brown, and a new leading man, John Gilbert. Both were destined to play an important part in her future success.

John Gilbert was then a famous star, colourful and tempestuous. The two fell in love, and this undoubtedly influenced the performances which they gave in *Flesh and the Devil*. The studio publicity experts joyfully exploited the romantic aspects of the production. From then on Greta Garbo was an established star.

The coming of sound only served to enhance Garbo's career. Her first talking picture was an adaptation of the O'Neill play *Anna Christie*. Mayer, and his right-hand man, Irving Thalberg, were apprehensive and pessimistic; and they delayed Garbo's debut as a talking star for as long as possible. *Anna Christie* had its New York premiere on March 14, 1930, and was immediately

successful. Her first appearance in the film was in drab clothes in a dingy waterfront saloon, and her first words were "Gimme a visky" — spoken in the husky, slightly guttural voice that was to become so typical of her in the years to come. Garbo made 14 sound pictures for MGM. She never worked from any other studio in Hollywood.

She retired in 1941 after making *Two-Faced Woman*, a sad finale to her career. She was still in her prime, and yet she probably felt that she had already enriched the cinema with all she had to give. Perhaps she also felt that change was in the air, and that a harsh and realistic post-war world would produce in the cinema an era that was out of sympathy with her majestic style of acting. Asked by a reporter in 1946 what she planned to do with her life, she replied: "I have no plans. I am drifting."

For more than 40 years after her retirement she lived in a seventh-floor apartment overlooking the East River in New York, occasionally venturing out but doing her best to go unrecognized. She also kept a summer residence in Switzerland. Of her private life little emerged.

Moody, introspective and listless, she retired even further into herself and ignored the world; and the world was left to try to analyse the secret of her fascination.

Elusive to the final reel

Whatever else it may or may not have been, Greta Garbo's career in Hollywood was almost perfectly managed; largely, it seems, because it was hardly managed at all. It was a sublime accident that she arrived in Hollywood just when she did, in 1926, at the psychological moment when the tango-Twenties were turning into the Charleston-Twenties. Garbo was something different: neither a vamp nor a flapper, but a pure flame of passion, enthralling in her directness and simplicity on screen.

She seemed completely un-manipulated. Of course this was not literally so: on arrival in America, she was slimmed, groomed, and had her teeth capped. But it was more the quality of personality which was at issue. Her acting was so open and uncluttered in its effects, that one seemed to be seeing a real person, without veils and equivocations, just being in front of the camera.

STARRING YEARS

- 1922: *Peter the Tramp*
 - 1924: *The Attraction of Gösta Berling*
 - 1925: *Joyless Street*
 - 1926: *The Torrent and The Temptress*
 - 1927: *Flesh and the Devil and Love*
 - 1928: *The Mysterious Lady, The Divine Woman and A Woman of Affairs*
 - 1929: *The Kiss, Wild Orchids and The Single Standard*
 - 1930: *Anna Christie* (first talkie), *Romance and Inspiration*
 - 1931: *Susan Lenox, Her Fall and Rise* (GB title), *The Rise of Helen* and *As You Desire Me*
 - 1932: *Mata Hari and Grand Hotel*
 - 1933: *Queen Christina*
 - 1934: *The Painted Veil*
 - 1935: *Anna Karenina*
 - 1936: *Camille*
 - 1937: *Conquest* (GB title), *Marie Walworth*
 - 1938: *Ninotchka*
 - 1941: *Two-Faced Woman*
- (All films made in black and white.)

The following year Gary Cooper produced exactly the same effect in *Wings*: as soon as either of them walked across the screen, everyone else in sight suddenly looked stilled and old-fashioned.

The result in Garbo's case was instant, overwhelming popularity. She was the kind of woman that other women wanted to be like, that men wanted to be passionately involved with. No doubt Garbo's studio, MGM, had its hopes, but the reality seems to have taken the studio completely by surprise. Her initially humble contract could be renegotiated; she could do more or less what she liked. She had her own ideas about that. But she really seems not to have had any overriding ambition, so it was easy for her to be strong and silent.

Laurence Olivier recalled that the only remark Garbo volunteered to him in the brief period before he was fired from playing from opposite her in *Queen Christina* was "Life's a pain anyway." A good attitude for a new star in Hollywood: like Rhett Butler, she really didn't give a damn. This meant that she assumed early on a position of unparalleled independence among Hollywood stars. By the arrival of the talkies, Garbo was recognized as the reigning goddess.

There were, perhaps, some drawbacks to being a goddess. As her career advanced through the Thirties, there were fans who remembered her in silence, and preferred her like that. She had a strong erotic dimension, as a woman capable of loving and being loved, rather than a deity to be ensnared. Those who felt a slight cooling in their attitudes to her often related it to the vexed question of whether Garbo could act. The obvious answer to that is that she could act at least as well as her films ever required her to do. She or her producers had the sense to tailor the roles to the talents.

Then, during the war, came disappearance from the screen, wanting to be even more alone, and the creation of a different kind of legend. As a private person she had always been mysterious: despite various rumoured love affairs she had always walked alone, and now she was to make a career of doing just that. But was that what she wanted, or were the frequent demands for privacy accidentally counter-productive? At least they brought her back in a way to where she had started in America: as a new, independent, wholly unconventional sort of woman. This time, no doubt, far fewer wished to take her exactly as a role model, but the women's movement could still respect her as an exemplar of feminine resolution and independence.

This might suggest that her example has been important to the new breed of female star which has come to prominence since the Sixties. But that would be to discount the essential uniqueness of any real star, and surely of Garbo, above all.

John Russell Taylor

The photographer and the movie star

Garbo's presumed love affairs — she never married — were the subject of much gossip and speculation.

Over the decades her frequent escorts included the actor John Gilbert, the conductor Leopold Stokowski, the nutrition theorist Cayleford Hauser, Baron Erik Goldschmidt-Rothschild, an art connoisseur, George Schlee, a figure in haute couture, and Cecil Beaton, who took some memorable photographs of her.

Beaton's quest to photograph Garbo began in 1929 when he went to the United States to gather beauties for his forthcoming book, saying: "She is going in regardless of her measurements. She has personality, and she has perfect lines, aside from academic beauty."

It was not until spring 1946 that he achieved his ambition. There occurred what Beaton described as "one of the greatest events in my life." This was his second meeting with Greta Garbo (the first had been in 1932 at the home of Edmund Goulding, who directed her in *Grand Hotel*) at a party in New York. This time Garbo reappeared in his life escorted by her Russian friend, George Schlee. When Cecil saw Garbo he was so taken back by her beauty that he had to hold on to the back of a chair. He examined her appearance; she was much thinner now, her nose spikier. He knew she remembered him when she said: "I



didn't wear lipstick when you knew me before." There were lines when she smiled. The perfection was gone. As he wrote in his diary:

The uncompromising beauty of mouse blonde hair, the scrawny hands a bit weathered, the ankles and feet a bit poor and bumpy-looking. Has no look of luxury. The hat like a pierrot — Callot — the high-waisted skirt. The incredible eyes and lids, and blue, clear iris. Historic beauty.

Suddenly it seemed Garbo was about to leave the party. Beaton hijacked her on to the roof terrace. He was determined to blur out his new-found feelings. She promised to ring him. When they met several days later, Garbo told him that she hated wearing underclothes or being

After her retirement, Garbo began a stormy relationship with Cecil

Beaton (right, together in London in 1956) but their friendship foundered after he published "passport" photographs of her in *Vogue* (left)

restricted in any way. She also told him her vertebrae were easily put out of line, yet she evidently let Beaton touch them.

At this meeting, somewhat prematurely, he proffered a proposal of marriage. It was received with Garbo's characteristic evasiveness: "Good heavens. Well this is so sudden. I once said to a friend of mine who asked me out to lunch: 'But really this is very frivolous of you'. I don't think you should speak so frivolously."

It was during this springtime of 1946 that Garbo suddenly said to Beaton: "I wonder... If you weren't such a grand and elegant photographer..." Beaton said: "Then you'd ask me to take a passport photograph for you?" Garbo posed for him and many photographs were taken.

Beaton always maintained that Garbo "put a pencil cross on those of which she approved and would allow me to publish in *Vogue* magazine". Accordingly he sent the selection to Alexander Liberman, who was overjoyed.

Meanwhile Beaton believed that his romance with Garbo was progressing in a positive way. But his enthusiasm was somewhat premature. On May 21, 1946 Garbo left for California. Cecil sailed for England on June 1. He telephoned Garbo in Hollywood. She told him that she was upset that more than one photograph was being published in *Vogue*. It was, of course, too late for Cecil to stop publication. Cecil sent her flowers, but for two years she refused to acknowledge them. She was furious about the photos, and when she returned to America she refused to answer any of Beaton's calls, letters or telegrams.

Nevertheless, the relationship with Beaton continued until the late 1950s. In 1975, Garbo paid a visit to Wiltshire and to Beaton's house at Broadchalke. When it was time for Garbo to leave, Beaton made as if to hug her. Deeply embarrassed, she spotted the visitor's book. To escape the embrace she broke the rule of a lifetime and signed her name in full. She never saw Beaton again.

© From Cecil Beaton by Hugo Vickers, published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson (£8.95).



Limelight: Garbo and Beaton in 1956

The wizard's missed trick

John Grigg

One hundred years ago today, a young Welshman took his seat in the House of Commons. He did so in the most favourable circumstances, because he was an opposition candidate who had just captured a government seat at a by-election, and because it was also Budget day. The constituency in question was Caernarvon Boroughs; the new MP was the 27-year-old David Lloyd George.

He was introduced into the House immediately after Questions on April 17, 1890, just before the Budget statement by George Joachim Goschen. According to an eye-witness, "he had plenty of time to study the scene of his future labours and to weave golden dreams if he chose", as questions were asked about such matters as "the Boulak Museum, the Portuguese Imbroglio and the Indian Factory Law".

The Boulak Museum and the Portuguese Imbroglio are long forgotten, as is Goschen's 1890 Budget, but the arrival of Lloyd George in British politics was indeed a memorable event, as he himself had no doubt it would prove. Nearly 10 years before, he had visited the House of Commons, when in London for a law exam, and, looking down from the gallery, had already woven golden dreams about his future.

In his maiden speech, which he made two months after taking his seat, he did not go in, as it were, at the shallow end with a lot of bogus self-deprecation and harmless platitudes, but plunged in with an attack on two contemporary giants, Randolph Churchill and Joseph Chamberlain. Nevertheless, the speech was a success.

Despite his combativeness and polemical brilliance, Lloyd George was never narrowly partisan. His aim was always to state his case with the utmost force, but then to seek compromise and consensus. Moreover, he did not allow the acrimony of debate to inhibit good personal relations with opponents. The day he took his seat he had dinner with a Tory MP, and later he was on excellent terms with two leaders of the Conservative Party, Balfour and Bonar Law, long before they became coalition colleagues.

He was the least dogmatic of politicians. Though he had clear objectives, he was infinitely pragmatic in reaching them. He knew how difficult it was to achieve change in "an old society like ours" with its "rooted complexities" (as he said when introducing old age pensions in 1908).

His great scheme of national health insurance underwent profound changes before being implemented (with payment of the first benefits in January 1913). As he went along, Lloyd George made enormous concessions to interested parties, notably the industrial insurance combine and the

doctors, but what emerged was a historic and in many ways original measure, which brought relief to millions.

Lloyd George's record as a social reformer is matched by his impact on the political system. Apart from what he did to modernize the machinery of government, above all by creating new ministries and a Cabinet secretariat, his famous contest with the House of Lords over his 1909 Budget had a powerfully democratizing effect (although one has to say that the ensuing Parliament Act was defective).

Under his premiership, full male suffrage was achieved (previously only about 60 per cent of men had the vote), and the right to vote and stand in parliamentary elections was extended to women, though initially only to those over 30.

Unlike Gladstone and Asquith, Lloyd George had always been a strong supporter of women's suffrage, so naturally he gave his full backing to a majority proposal in its favour which emerged from the all-party Speaker's Conference in early 1917. Unfortunately he did not give his backing to a unanimous proposal of the same body in favour of proportional representation for big cities. On the contrary, he poured cold water on the idea, with the result that an opportunity was missed, which has never since recurred, for making our electoral system more truly representative.

The opportunity was unique because by the time of the Speaker's Conference, the pre-war atmosphere of intense rivalry and hostility between parties had given way to an overwhelming sense of the need for unity, combined with a desire to make the country's institutions fit for the new age. Lloyd George was the man of the hour, and his prestige then was such that his attitude towards any proposal was likely to be decisive. By adopting an almost frivolously sceptical attitude to the proposed experiment in PR, he effectively killed it.

In the 1920s he had good cause to regret what he had done, or not done, in 1917, as the Liberal Party fell out of the two-party duopoly and began to suffer from the injustice of the first-past-the-post system. When he was converted to electoral reform, it was too late.

In the long run, the country paid the penalty for his mistake. The ideological excesses of left and right that have bedevilled British politics since 1945 would have been impossible under a fair voting system which accurately reflected the will of the people. Lloyd George's rare failure to take advantage of a national consensus was to prove exceptionally costly, both to him and to the nation.

The paperback edition of John Grigg's *The Young Lloyd George* was published last week by Methuen (£12.99).

ALAN COREN

This is the night male, crossing the border. But when I say that the whiff of assignation made the nostrils flare, do not think badly of me. The eyes beadyly traversing the platform of Calais Gare Maritime last Wednesday did not necessarily ache for a glimpse of Celia Johnson's daughter, licking the last crusts from her dewy lip in the station buffet before hurrying for the Nice sleeper on unapproachable legs. Nor, when I turned from the window, did I particularly hope to see some lissom form already snuggled in the upper bunk, whether it had surreptitiously slid — perhaps through bribery, perhaps through sheer good fortune — to await the ministrations of the handsome English stranger with the Elastoplast on his head.

For the as-yet-unravished occupant of the second bed did not have to be female. An Oriental spy would do, already dying, possibly, from the pellet slipped into his *tasme* aboard the Channel ferry, and hanging on only for the train to lurch out of Calais before pressing upon me the oil-skin packet taped to ribs poised to shudder their last. Or if not he, why not some excited Balkan monarch, until yesterday a hapless pot-boy at the ironically named King of Bulgaria in Huddersfield, but today off to claim his post-glacial inheritance? Who, in return for my guarding him while he slept (the crested Luger in my fist ever on the *qui vive* for his wall-eyed nephew Rupert, archduke and arch-enemy alike) would invest me, as he changed trains at Nice, with the Order of St Cyril and a lifetime pension drawn on the Easy Street Bank.

Such prospects were, after all, what had decided me to take the train. I could have flown to Nice in two hours, I could have motored down at my own pace, either of which I had often done before, but neither of which had ever held out the limitless romantic possibilities that had suddenly burgeoned a fortnight earlier in Piccadilly, when, bound for Hatchards to purchase something to read on what I had already decided was to be the plane, I happened to pass the offices of SNCF.

There are those who can resist the resonances of something called The National Society of the Iron Road, and those who cannot. I went in. Yes, they had one berth left on the Calais-Nice wagon-lit. A double. I said that my wife would be flying down. The man said how sad it was that some people didn't like trains. Very sad, I said.

Because I had taken the hovercraft, I arrived at the station an hour early. The train, awaiting the Dover ferry, was empty. I boarded, stowed my traps, ate a hard-boiled egg, pulled on a hip-flask, lit a cigarette; did, in short, all that Richard Hannay would have done in the circumstances, save, perhaps, tie a quick trout fly and hook it into my hat. At 7pm, the boat waddled alongside the quay and dangled its payload who filed in their hundreds across the platform and began seeking their perches.

I betted the breath. Unquestionably, there were glamorous women and unfathomable men dotted among the anoraks and Crimpeles. Affecting insouciance, I watched them board, and edge along my corridor. Gradually the train filled, until the only incomplete compartment was my own. The whistle blew, the heart sank — and suddenly, he was there, hurtling along the platform, shouting, snatching open the accelerating door. Pursued? Pursuing? Expiring? Mad?

He staggered into my cell, a small man in a white linen cap, a navy raincoat, and scuffed basketweave shoes. He nodded. He did not smile. He did not speak. Give him time, I thought, all will be revealed by Amiens.

All was revealed long before then. It was not simply that he turned in immediately, nor that he spent long, painstaking minutes loosening the buckles on his depressingly ochre trousers, nor that he poked cotton wool into either ear, nor even that, having removed his wrinkled borsieri, he hung it from his bunk head so that it dangled above me.

It was, I think, when he leaned over, took his teeth out and dropped them into the left-hand sock that it was suddenly borne in upon me that I was in for an inauspicious night.

Charles Bremner on the designer faiths that have encouraged America's religious revival

Where pastors are led by the flock

American clergyman plucked straight from the mid-1970s would be doubly surprised by the scenes in Manhattan churches this Easter: by the prayers of thanksgiving for the deliverance of Eastern Europe from communism and, particularly, by the sight of pews packed with conventionally dressed young couples, many with children.

After many years of decline, the principal denominations across the country are enjoying bigger congregations. Younger Americans, it is said, are returning to traditional values because the hedonism and greed of recent times have left them with a thirst for spiritual truth.

Of course the American churches have never failed badly as those in Western Europe. While the Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran and Episcopalian churches were abandoned by many of the young, the fall was in large part compensated by the rush over the past 15 years to the evangelical movement, the Mormons, and other churches. About 40 per cent of Americans regularly attend a place

of worship, against 10 per cent in Western Europe. A recent Gallup survey found that 94 per cent of Americans believe in God, and nine out of 10 pray regularly.

Some see signs of a new religious era, but the picture is confused, for there is a spectacular gulf between what one Catholic bishop calls America's "free-floating new religiosity" and the ability of the established churches to attract serious membership.

The pessimists say they see few signs of any inclination for submission to the rigours of true faith. Rather, religion for millions of baby-boom Americans — those between 30 and 45 — is a matter of picking from a menu of "belief-systems" that satisfy the creed of self-improvement. Young New Yorkers, it is said, are joining denominations as much because they like the child-care facilities or the entertainment value of local sermons as for any higher reason.

It is a practice presumably endorsed by some clergy, given the slogan of a recent ecumenical campaign on the New York subway: "Worship this Sunday —

Go to the Church of your Choice". (Over Lent, the most visible subway advertising was a rather peremptory Catholic slogan: "Say Your Prayers — and Fast".)

According to one vocal critic, Alan Jones, the Dean of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, Americans have made religion into a private "leisure activity" which, like aerobics, relieves stress and has nothing to do with the social fabric. "I am sick of all our talk of values as if they exist in thin air," he says.

There is plenty of evidence for such views, from the bookshops which are stacked with titles such as *Zen to Go* to the boom in "New Age" creeds that blend oriental mysticism with mumbo-jumbo about crystals and pyramids all wrapped up in California-babble about harmony and vibrations. Indeed, the Golden State offers the best look at the boom in "post-Protestant religion". According to a survey last year, nearly one in three Californians believes in reincarnation, and one in five practises a brand of oriental meditation.

Apart from the evangelicals and fundamentalists, the churches are finding it hard to tailor a social and moral message to the secular age. Many mainstream Protestants criticise their clergy for pusillanimity and failing out to social trends, from liberation theology to feminism and the tolerance of homosexuality.

The Catholic Church, which enjoys the affiliation of one in four Americans, is suffering a schism between its increasingly authoritarian leadership and an independent-minded flock. As Cardinal John O'Connor of New York remarked on Sunday: "It's a free country, so people can pick and choose whatever they want to believe or do — but you can't do that and be a Catholic."

To the dismay of many, Cardinal O'Connor and other bishops are demanding that Roman Catholic politicians actively oppose abortion even if it means losing elections. Reluctant politicians are being banned from communion, and one of the cardinal's auxiliaries has just de-

clared Governor Mario Cuomo a certain candidate for hellfire. Meanwhile, some independent clergy are taking a radical approach, winning congregations by playing to the taste of the television generation while staying clear of the "God-can-make-you-rich" approach of the disgraced TV evangelists. In New Jersey, shoppers are invited to drop into a church set up in a suburban shopping mall. On Long Island, a minister and a rabbi are running a popular ecumenical radio show called *The God Squad*.

Most successful of all is the Rev William Hybels, of Chicago, who designed his liturgy on the basis of a consumer survey. He found that people want "high take-home value", "entertainment" and "a convenience-oriented gospel". Now boasting the second largest congregation of any Protestant church in America, he believes his methods bring to God hundreds of people who find ordinary services too boring. He has a point, but more orthodox churchmen wonder if entertainment is the same as worship.

Do they really intend to scrap the pound?

To judge from the media, the great majority of politically-aware people in this country now believe that European monetary union is inevitable. In some circles this is taken to justify early membership of the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System. The argument is that if Britain is outside the ERM, it will be an impotent spectator during the long negotiations on the future shape of economic and monetary union (EMU), beginning with the inter-governmental conference in December.

All this is very peculiar. It is taken for granted both that EMU is inevitable and that long negotiations lie ahead. But what will those negotiations be about, unless to define the meaning and content of EMU? If no one knows what it is, how can it be inevitable?

The puzzle here is to explain why normally sensible and practical people are so keen to put together sentences, phrases, and indeed whole speeches in which they do not know what the key words mean. Perhaps the answer is that they see "Europe" as being in some sense the future, against which no one can argue. So anything "Euro" is approved automatically and without thought.

A certain vagueness about the meaning of words is not unusual in low-level political chatter, and much of the time is harmless. But in this context it matters a great deal. High-level politicians, including Sir Geoffrey Howe and Michael Heseltine, have been particularly busy with their warnings of British isolation outside the exchange rate mechanism, and have been particularly sloppy with the vocabulary of EMU. It is time to ask them — and their many associates in the European Commission and elsewhere — what they really mean.

A short definition of European monetary union is a single European currency and a single European monetary policy, under the direction of one European central bank. That seems straightforward enough, but, in fact, already contains crucial ambiguities. First of all, would a "single European currency" replace or co-exist with the present European currencies? Are the pound, Deutschmark, franc and so on to be abolished, or are they to co-exist with the (as yet undefined) European unit?



Tim Congdon urges those calling for European monetary union to face a few basic questions

Consider some implications if the pound were to be abolished. There are now countless contracts — insurance policies, pension plans, national savings, bank deposits, government and corporate bonds which are expressed in pounds sterling. If the pound were to go, all these contracts would need to be revised. These revisions would be altogether different in character from the relabelling that followed metrication and decimalization. Those were changes of form. By contrast, the abolition of the pound would be a radical change of substance.

Every long-term contract contains, either implicitly or explicitly, an interest-rate component. Sterling interest rates are different from other European interest rates, and presumably they would not be the same as those in the new European currency, whatever that might be. If all long-term sterling contracts were to become defunct and to be replaced, somehow or other, by new Euro-contracts, the

return to lenders and the amount paid by borrowers would be altered, in some cases dramatically. The result would be legal and accounting mayhem.

The advocates of EMU probably do not want this to happen. They may therefore be in favour of co-existence of the national currencies and the so-called "single" European currency, at least for a period. But this raises two questions: is the period of co-existence to be indefinite or finite? and, if co-existence is to end eventually, how are Europeans to move to the new currency?

In logic, the Howe/Heseltine answer to the first question must be that the period of co-existence is to be finite, since otherwise there would never be a genuinely single currency and some of the supposed advantages of EMU (notably, the elimination of the costs of exchanging currencies) would not be realized. So the pound will have to disappear in the end, even if it is phased out over decades. The second ques-

tion is even more awkward. Are we to be forced to switch to the new currency, or will we be free not to use it if we do not like it?

This issue — whether the European currency is to be compulsory or voluntary — is basic. Curiously, and ominously, it is discussed nowhere in the Delors Report. The question turns on the legal tender status of the European currency. If this currency is to be legal tender, anyone refusing payment in it will be breaking the law. People will be forced to accept the new unit, despite all the inconvenience of having two prices for every product, one in national currency, the other in the new.

It needs to be strongly emphasized that if our Euro-statement bank at these practical consequences of forcible introduction of the European currency, the whole EMU enterprise will get nowhere. At present people in Britain are free to hold deposits in European Currency Units (Ecu), to express the value of securities and the prices of goods in Ecu,

and to make payments in Ecu. But the obvious reality is that they perform these worthy *communautaire* proto-EMU tasks only to a very limited degree. The evidence from the way people behave now, as distinct from the way the European political establishment recommends and predicts that they will behave in future, is that they do not want a European currency.

The recent meeting of European finance ministers at Ashford Castle in Ireland was one of the preliminaries to the inter-governmental conference. It devoted much time to such matters as the political independence of the future European central bank and the limits to be imposed on individual countries' fiscal freedom. But as we have seen, these topics are secondary to the fundamental issues of whether the various national currencies are to survive and, if not, by what means they are to be extinguished.

At Ashford Castle, finance ministers from the other European countries made a great fuss about Britain's isolation, but it is better to judge them by what they do than by what they say. Until quite recently, West Germany prohibited the private use of the Ecu, from simple aversion to a rival for the Deutschmark. This was despite the long-standing absence of exchange controls on other currencies, and contrasts markedly with Britain, which has never put special restrictions on Ecu use. The Italians, who claim to be particularly eager to subject themselves to the massive upheaval involved in a new European currency, have spent years bickering about the relatively trivial change of redenominating the lira (that is, knocking off the noughts). Perhaps, at this time of hope and optimism about a new European settlement, we should be charitable to our EC partners. We should take it on trust that even if they do not know what they mean, they do at least mean what they say. But that does not excuse the British government from asking them hard, serious questions about what it is they do mean. Nor does it excuse Sir Geoffrey Howe and Michael Heseltine from asking themselves exactly what EMU is before they assume that it cannot be stopped.

The author is economic adviser to Gerard & National Holdings.

Talking again to China

No embarrassment, no cover-up, no special significance. So says Downing Street. Yet only days before the Chinese authorities cordoned off Tiananmen Square earlier this month to stop anybody commemorating the June massacre, the Prime Minister went unannounced to dinner with the Chinese Ambassador, Ji Chaozhu, at his official residence in Portland Place. It is believed to be her first official contact with the Chinese authorities since the massacre. Mrs Thatcher's office was yesterday remarkably reticent about the meeting, doing no more than to confirm that it took place while denying there had been any attempt at a cover-up.

A spokeswoman said: "There was a meeting, but it was very low key. I think we have mentioned it a couple of times. We have not been making on-the-record statements about it." Perhaps predictably, George Foulkes, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, expressed dismay at the meeting. "I am very surprised and consider it totally inappropriate. With the anniversary of the massacre on June 4 it is entirely wrong that such a high-level contact should take place."

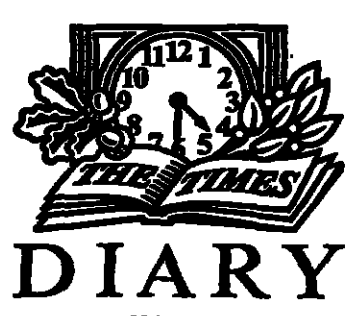
Drama all round

To show that coals can always be taken to Newcastle, London's European Stage Company is taking three Vaclav Havel plays to Czechoslovakia next month. Havel himself es-

chewed the production of his *Vanek* trilogy at the Lyric, Hammersmith during his recent three-day trip to London. Now that he is president of Czechoslovakia, he did not wish to be seen endorsing his own work abroad, but the Ministry of Culture in Prague says he will attend a performance at the city's Realistic Theatre next month. Within a week of the trilogy opening in London last November, Czechoslovakia's communist government fell. The *Vanek* director, Peter Casterlon, expects no such off-stage drama this time. We note, however, that the Czechs go to the polls one week after the Prague opening.

Pedal peer

The death of Lord Bruce-Gardyne has deprived us of one of London's most notable — and eccentric — cyclists. Westminster friends were familiar with the sight of the former Treasury minister arguing with police officers about the roadworthiness, or otherwise, of his antiquated bicycles, which he bought in secondhand shops for a few pounds a time. Officers remonstrated to no avail about the risk to his safety. Tory MP Nick Budgen recalls that the numerous run-ins were part of Bruce-Gardyne's "almost boyish delight in shocking". While many of his friends were driven to important functions in limousines, Bruce-Gardyne went by bike. "The more rich and pompous, the more he tried to shock them. The bicycles always had the wrong lights or no brakes," Thieves often intervened, but



Bruce-Gardyne always went out the next day to buy an even more ramshackle model.

Hostage honour

John McCarthy, the British journalist held captive in Lebanon, is to be honoured today — the fourth anniversary of his kidnapping — with a gold medal awarded to journalists who have suffered in the cause of freedom of expression. It will be presented by the Institute of Journalists to McCarthy's father, Patrick, at a service at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street. The medal was last presented 10 years ago to Harold Evans, then editor of *The Sunday Times*, for his campaign on behalf of Thalidomide children.

Facing facts

The Twenty-one Contemporary Poets exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery has one glaring omission: the 21st poet. While such luminaries as Danny Abse and John Heath-Stubbs take their places, the 10th-high space reserved for Patrick Galvin, the Belfast bard, remains

empty. Members of Galvin's family who were invited to the official opening made two complete tours of the exhibition searching for his likeness, before the artist Peter Edwards revealed that he hasn't finished it yet.

Blitz hits

Tastes and smells unknown for 40 years emerged at the Imperial War Museum over the Easter break, under the auspices of former Ministry of Food adviser Marguerite Patten. Before an audience of nostalgic contemporaries and fascinated children, Mrs Patten, who is now in her seventies, produced such classics as Woolton Pie (layers of anything, hard-boiled egg substitutes (shaped, grated carrot and mashed potato), the National loaf, the Victory sponge and salt cod (dubbed by one wit, "the piece of cod which passed all understanding"). Mrs Patten is supremely qualified to recreate these egalitarian treats, for she sat behind the Harrods food advice counter in 1943 educating women: "Everyone got the same rations, regardless of where they shopped." Anyone with the stomach for a second helping will find Mrs Patten cooking at the museum again next weekend.

Pulling apart

Since the Battle of Britain was occupying the minds of most Old Etonians at the time of the college's 500th anniversary, this year's 550th has taken on special significance. Next month's celebrations will include the usual food and drink, fireworks, a

procession of boats, acres of canvas and a service in the Chapel. To pay for the party, the college needs at least 8,000 OE to purchase tickets at £62.50 by the middle of April. So far only about 2,000 have responded. Computer indignation is blamed, due to the multiple hyphenations and titles of OEs and the gargantuan task of tracing the whereabouts of such elusive shirkers as Lord Lucan. Says David Thomas, old Etonian and editor of *Punch*: "They have long since lost touch with me. Perhaps they should electronically tag boys when they leave."

Garbo's desire

An insight into Greta Garbo's reclusiveness from a time in the late 1940s lived in California with his grandmother, the actress Gladys Cooper, a close friend of the Hollywood star. Says Morley: "My grandmother would occasionally announce, 'Garbo's coming, clean up the kitchen.' Garbo had a passion for washing-up and liked a tidy sink before she could start on the plates." Morley says it must have resulted from her desire to avoid the conversation of her fellow actors, at the time not the most stimulating intellectual company. She was, he says, intelligent, lonely and foreign, in a film community which distrusted all three attributes almost as much as it distrusted strong women. But it will surely come as a shock to the millions of women who have stood at the kitchen-sink, dreaming of being Garbo, that the star herself stood at the sink dreaming of being an ordinary housewife.



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BALTIC MEANS AND ENDS

President Gorbachov has failed in his attempt to win a cheap victory on the Baltic, with his ultimatum to the Lithuanian Government to concede Soviet sovereignty or face economic sanctions. Now the bluff, if bluff it was, is called. Sanctions must be imposed or, so it would appear, a rebuff endured.

Nor can the West remain wholly aloof. The Lithuanian President, Mr Landsbergis, has publicly appealed for help in the event of an economic blockade. The United States and the European Community must decide soon how far they can push Mr Gorbachov towards secessionist sentiment, and preferably before the Baltic blockade begins to bite. An airlift like that which saved West Berlin forty years ago is unrealistic. No Western power will threaten retaliatory economic sanctions if Mr Gorbachov goes ahead with his plan. The risks involved in any breakdown of relations with Moscow are simply too great, nor does the denial by Mr Gorbachov of essential supplies to Lithuania constitute the use of force.

If sanctions are ruled out, it is diplomatic child's play to construct a case for doing nothing, on the grounds that Lithuanian secession is indeed a Soviet domestic affair and that Mr Gorbachov might not survive a defeat. The professionals are right to be cautious, but the range of options for Western policy is not restricted to all or nothing.

Mr Gorbachov has been deliberately vague in his threats to Vilnius and the West should respond in kind. It must speak moderately in public but forcefully in private, compelling the Kremlin to consider carefully the consequences of each turn of the sanctions screw. The effectiveness of Western diplomatic pressure so far is demonstrated by the fact that, despite his wide executive powers, the Soviet President seems for the moment to have decided against a military push in Vilnius.

Together with America, Britain is taking the lead in a complex balancing act between public caution and private resolution. The Foreign Secretary came under Opposition fire at the weekend for warning that Mr Gorbachov would inevitably pay a "penalty" in the West if he forced Lithuania into submission. Yet Mr Hurd's relatively mild reproach was a response to widespread pro-Lithuanian opinion. He had, after all, made the same point in private to the Soviet Government in Moscow a few days earlier. Soviet policy-makers are known to be far from happy at the loss of Western goodwill.

which their Baltic policy is bringing in its train. But they can hardly expect the reproaches so far administered from London and Washington to remain mild much longer.

Mr Gorbachov has shown himself capable of settling other Stalinist debts. He has apologized for Katyn. He knows what horrors have been perpetrated in the Baltic states in the name of the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact. From such a man, it is not unreasonable to expect an explicit repudiation of those horrors, and even of the Pact itself, as part of his purification of Soviet public life. Any further constitutional instruments he may enact to give reality to the right to secede are as nothing compared to the effect on Vilnius, Riga and Tallinn of a solemn abjuration of Stalin's act of annexation. As a similar admission to Czechoslovakia has already shown, the world does not come to an end when the Kremlin says sorry.

Having cleared the air, Mr Gorbachov should sit down with Mr Landsbergis to discuss security. In this field Moscow's anxieties are understandable, as a glance at the history and geography of the Baltic seaboard makes clear. The great Soviet naval ports will continue to be needed for the foreseeable future, though Moscow should follow the American example by showing its willingness to maintain them on a commercial basis: as guests, not occupants.

Alternatively, the Lithuanians would surely accept Finlandization. There are historical reasons why the Russians reject Baltic neutrality. The Baltic states last held centre stage in the summer of 1939. It was Britain's refusal to infringe their independence — by conceding Stalin's demand for the right to march his troops through these neutral territories — which ensured that Stalin concluded a treaty with Hitler, not Chamberlain, three weeks later.

Mr Gorbachov, and certainly some of his colleagues, might reasonably hold that a renounced Germany poses a security threat which must preclude any "neutral" countries on his north-western flank. If that is Mr Gorbachov's underlying fear, it must be possible — indeed, it is in the West's interest — to allay it. Here the onus is on Bonn, for neither Washington nor the other Nato allies can offer guarantees on Germany's behalf. There is no time to lose. The flame now flickering along the Baltic must not be extinguished for a second time this century.

CLASSROOM CONFUSION

The theory that Margaret Thatcher runs a tight ship has been denied by her admission that the full implications of the Education Reform Act have taken her aback. She says she thinks the imposition of a national curriculum is too rigid. Clearly hers is a government in which the Prime Minister does not always have her own way — in this case, more is the pity. Her belated misgivings, registered through the vehicle of the *Sunday Telegraph*, are sound.

The present Secretary of State for Education, Mr John MacGregor, is already acquiring a reputation as a pragmatist, for his flexible implementation of the Education Reform Act. Serious rethinking, will none the less be required from those within his ministry who saw the national curriculum (through the eyes of his predecessor, Mr Kenneth Baker) as a truly radical break with the past: a British version of French regimentation, where it is no great exaggeration to say that all French children are taught the same thing at the same time. The advisory committees set up to define the content of the national curriculum took their cue from Mr Baker, seldom a wise move. Reading of the Prime Minister's doubts, they must now be more than a little confused.

What is to be made of her remarks? Mrs Thatcher appeared to be launching an attack on the whole idea of a nationalized syllabus. She observed: "Once you put out an approved curriculum, if you have got it wrong, the situation is worse afterwards than it was before." Precisely those objections have been heard over the proposed history curriculum, objections the Prime Minister is known to share, because of its controversial preference for its subject matter to be "experienced" rather than learned.

ENGLAND'S REAL TEST

Such is the state of English cricket that not to have lost five-nil in a Test series against the West Indies is now regarded as almost a triumph. Worse, the team's performance is seen as a vindication of the do-nothing faction within the sport's ruling echelons. Certainly, congratulations may be in order — but only if England's less than disastrous batting and bowling in the West Indies form the basis for a renewal of the game. That will not be completed until the appearance of an England team of consistent world-beating quality.

The 1990 season commences at Lords today with the traditional curtain-raiser between MCC and the champions, Worcestershire. It is a good moment for English cricket to remind itself that its real enemy has never been a ferocious pace attack — from whatever corner of the globe — but sheer complacency.

An early England victory in the Caribbean may have had something to do with the rejection last month by the Test and County Cricket Board of proposals to switch to a general four-day county cricket regime instead of the present mixture of mainly three-day matches with just a few over four days. When first mooted, doubters were swept along by a mood of despondency, if not panic, at the recent performance of the national side. Yet with the first hint that things were not quite as bad as they looked, complacency returned.

There is room for a sincere difference of opinion between those who argue that a general four-day county game is the only route to international success, and those who claim that it would have the opposite effect. Both are at least united in recognizing that success at Test level is crucial to the health of the game in England. They are also agreed on the need to look afresh at the state of cricket in schools, the

She now recognizes that teachers discover in the classroom for themselves what works and what does not. Too rigid an imposed syllabus could undermine their enthusiasm and devotion. Here is the voice of the teacher pitting professional independence against high-flown academic "expertise", the practitioner against the theoretician.

The Government originally sold the idea of a national curriculum to parents as a conservative reform, a switch in emphasis towards traditional classroom teaching techniques, which would squeeze out the wilder notions to which teachers — left-wing ones, of course — were said to be tempted.

Nobody in Government appears to have asked what might happen if the curriculum itself moved that way, and caused teachers, many of them staunch traditionalists already, to abandon their well-tried methods for imposed educational novelties. That may be what Mrs Thatcher described succinctly as "getting it wrong".

Any efforts now to gloss over the difference between the Prime Minister's approach and that followed by Mr MacGregor's officials will merely add to the confusion. He should take an early opportunity to clarify how the Government sees its famous curriculum working in practice. Is it a statement of loose guidelines against which teachers can measure their work, as Mrs Thatcher seems to prefer, or a uniform national standard, backed by law, as was surely Mr Baker's original concept?

The answer should be — and probably will be — the former. But teachers themselves need to know for certain. Since the Government also wants them to play a bigger part in running their own schools, they need to know soon.

condition of pitches, the level of coaching, even the type of ball used. Who knows but that they might one day examine the height of the stumps and a ban on ridiculously dangerous short-pitched balls?

For many cricket administrators and professional players, the switch to a four-day county game was a key element in an overall programme of reform. They perceived that three-day county cricket is too unlike five-day Test cricket to cultivate the right match-winning skills. Four-day games would also offset the unfortunate influence of one-day cricket on the style of county play.

The four-day proposal was thrown out not on the basis of cricket judgement, but because too many of those who control cricket in this country refuse to accept that international success is essential to the game as a whole, not least at county level. County cricket is heavily subsidized by Test matches, and many who follow the county game originally acquired their enthusiasm for it from an exciting international contest.

What will fill up the stands at both Test and county grounds, and have sponsors and television companies queuing up to do business, is a Test series in which England does really well, not just better than expected. In crude marketing terms, the English cricket industry has to have a product which the public wants to buy.

Cricket needs famous names doing great deeds with bat and ball. Die-hard cricket lovers will need no persuading; but die-hard cricket lovers are not numerous enough. A wider public has to be attracted, and for that English cricket must be high in quality, entertaining, absorbing — and successful. Otherwise, minority sport status stares it in the face.

Call to slow down NHS reforms

From Sir Henry Yellowlees

Sir, The NHS and Community Care Bill is now reaching the final stages of its passage through Parliament. The debate has naturally centred on the main theme of the proposals — the introduction of competition into the NHS, with the aim of reducing health costs. The feasibility of the method of introduction of these changes has received relatively little public attention, in part because only anecdotal evidence has been available.

Over the past few weeks a series of reports published in January, 1990, have been issued from the Department of Health on the detail of the information and information technology needed for the implementation of the reforms. The reports illustrate the complexity of the undertaking, and demonstrate the enormous gulf that still exists between the theory of these reforms and the practicality of the time scale proposed for their introduction.

These documents — "Framework for Information Systems" — are full of phrases like "it is difficult to introduce", "time is not on our side", "details of how the reforms will work are still not clear", "lack of clarity about roles", "responsibility for that function is not clear".

It has become evident that the department's own advisers recognize that it is not at present possible to cost an out-patient attendance or a course of in-patient treatment with any accu-

racy. How can it be sensible to introduce scattered NHS trust hospitals and fund-holding practices when these must depend on buying and selling a product which cannot be costed?

The reforms depend upon the internal market, and it in turn depends on information and accurate costs. Yet it is clear that the internal market is far from ready, if the Government is not prepared to delay implementation of the whole scheme, then I believe it is essential that the scheme be introduced first in pilot areas or regions, so that the system can be properly supported financially and refined before nationwide introduction.

Many of those who, like myself, have had many years of experience of the NHS earnestly hope that these reforms will improve the service, but fear the consequences of imposing an impossible timetable on an overstretched system. Even at this late stage there is still time for the Government to change the pace of their introductions, and not risk failure of the reforms, or possibly of the whole of the NHS, by insisting on a rushed timetable that appears to be potentially disastrous.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY YELLOWLEES,
(Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Security, 1973-83),
43 Sandwich House,
Sandwich Street, WCL,
April 12.

Future of the parties

From Sir Fitzroy Maclean

Sir, At a time when the opinion polls, for what they are worth, indicate some possibility of a Labour victory at the next election, should we not ask ourselves what this would be likely to involve? In other words, could we be in for a dose of socialism in this country at a time when socialism, as a system of government, is everywhere totally discredited?

It will, no doubt, be objected that the Labour Party are not really socialists; that, like their fellow-socialists in Eastern Europe, they have at long last seen the error of their ways and no longer believe in building socialism. Certainly, the present leadership of the Labour Party have of late shown themselves ready to drop any policy that looked like being a vote loser. And there can be no doubt that socialism is itself a serious vote-loser in most parts of the world, especially in those which have long had to endure it against their will.

But if, as their own left wing keep complaining, the Labour Party are no longer true socialists, but just another bourgeois party, why do they remain members of the Second Socialist International, and why do they retain Article 4 of their constitution, which still expressly commits them to the nationalisation of the means of production, distribution and exchange?

These, I feel, are questions which deserve an answer before we run even the slightest risk of becoming, with Albania, one of the few remaining socialist states in Europe.
Yours faithfully,
FITZROY MACLEAN,
Strachan House,
Argyll.

Costly staff

From Mr C. J. Hughes

Sir, I have some sympathy for Mr Cowan (April 6). However, the problem he complains of is of recent origin. In 1989, in the Lister case, it was held that employees of insolvent companies could not be made redundant in anticipation of the sale of a business. Prior to this it was usual to sell insolvent businesses without employees' contracts and leave the purchaser to choose whom to re-employ.

Over the years this has resulted in the resurrection of many household-name firms in a streamlined form and the re-employment of tens of thousands of redundant employees. In the current state of the law, purchasers are reluctant to buy insolvent businesses, for the reasons Mr Cowan mentions. The absurd result of the Lister case is that EC regulations, designed to protect employees, are having, in the UK, quite the opposite effect.

Insolvency practitioners are fighting to modify the law, but until this is achieved employees who could be usefully and quickly re-employed may find themselves redundant.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. HUGHES,
Cork Gully
(Insolvency practitioners),
Shelley House,
3 Noble Street, EC2,
April 6.

Property as tax base

From the Secretary-General of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Sir, Your leader of April 7 underlines the confusion over policy on local taxes on both sides of the House of Commons.

In 1982 the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors renewed its call for a revision of local taxation. We argued then that property was the least satisfactory base for local taxes. Unlike people, it does not often move and its existence is difficult to conceal. We also argued that the concept of an assessed rental value made no sense to people living in a time when there is no true free market in rented accommodation — to the

national's misfortune, but that is another story. We argued, therefore, that local revenues should be derived from a tax base of property capital values.

There are several ways to handle the problem of assessing and updating capital values. This should become easier in the future as more property information becomes publicly available, with the welcome trend to minimising the secrecy of information held by the Land Registry and other statutory bodies.

Taxes based on property values

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS KINNEAR,
56a Sunderland Road,
Forest Hill, SE23.

From the Editor of *Greensted-Johns-Ongar and Stamford Rivers*
Sir, The Liturgical Commission has already suggested that the bulky Alternative Service Book should be worked over to incorporate our new understanding of women. "He" and "men" have to come out.

Should not the National Anthem therefore have an extra line in a stanza to read
That men should brothers be
And ladies sisters be
And form one family.

Perhaps we shall need to add, later on, "And OK gaiety".
Yours faithfully,
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The Rectory,
Greensted, Ongar, Essex.

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A 'common vision' for security

From Miss Catharine Goldsmith

Sir, It is clear from Mr Frederick Bonnan's report (April 11) on Mr Shevardnadze's proposals for a new European security structure that the Soviet Union is seeking to formalise the continued existence of the Warsaw Pact by tying it into a security structure with Nato. This takes no account of the stark differences between the two organisations, nor the fact that, without some new means to prop it up, the Warsaw Pact will collapse as the compliant communist dictatorships which preserved it are collapsing.

It would be very wrong for the West to let the Soviet Union off the hook by allowing it to set the terms for the future security structure of Europe or to grant Moscow the opportunity to re-organise the furniture of the "common European home" to its liking.

If Nato's *Sixteen Nations* [the Brussels-based magazine in which Mr Shevardnadze sets out his proposals] chooses to be the vehicle for Soviet policy statements, it should perhaps be more suitably entitled *Warsaw Pact Review*.

Yours sincerely,
CATHARINE GOLDSMITH
(European Editor),
Defense & Diplomacy,
Kingsgate Business Centre,
12-50 Kingsgate Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey,
April 11.

From Mr Hugh Hanning
Sir, Mr Shevardnadze has now given his own version of the future, envisaging an integration of the East and West blocs within the Helsinki system. President Bush, who often talks of "this vision thing", could now take this a stage further by emulating the vision of his predecessors which conceived the UN, the World Bank and Marshall Aid.

The secret of Marshall Aid was that it had clear objectives — the defeat of poverty, and with it the threat of communism and national conflicts — and because it identified them, it achieved all of them. Today's "vision" waits to be identified, but it is nudging at everybody's consciousness: the

minority, who do not therefore feel threatened. In the north the first-past-the-post system carried out its old tricks and under-represented the Catholics, with consequential bitterness.

In Eastern Europe there are significant ethnic and religious variations in the countries involved in creating democracy. It is significant that the Romanian communists should have pressed for the first-past-the-post system in the knowledge that, providing the anti-communist vote is split, a minority vote for the communists could ensure a majority of seats in Parliament. If this is what you regard as strong government, the Romanian communists for one would agree with you.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY THORPE,
2 Orme Square, W2.

PR for East Europe

From Mr Jeremy Thorpe
Sir, I am appalled by your suggestion (leading article, April 7) that the emerging East European democracies should adopt the British first-past-the-post voting system. I can think of nothing likely to cause more trouble in the future. One need not look further than Ireland to prove the case.

At the time of partition Lloyd George was determined that Catholics in the north and Protestants in the south should be fairly represented. The system has continued without break in the Republic and was abolished in the north for narrow party reasons, only to be reintroduced by the Heath Government.

PR in the south has given fair representation to the Protestant

Embryo research

From Ms Jane Mellor
Sir, There seems to be great confusion in the minds of many MPs who spoke in favour of embryo research during the second reading of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill.

Considerable importance was attached to the need for pre-implantation diagnosis as a preferred alternative to late abortion on grounds of handicap. Many MPs described this argument as perhaps the decisive factor influencing their current determination to vote in favour of embryo research later this month. I would appeal to them to think again.

The Bill as it stands will not prevent the detection and discarding of genetically abnormal embryos if the "no research" clause is passed. Schedule 2, 1(1) of the Bill — the "no research" option — states clearly in paragraph (d) that a licence may, in the course of providing treatment services, authorise "practices designed to secure that embryos are in a suitable condition to be placed in a woman or to determine whether embryos are suitable for that purpose".

Clearly, this permits the selection of embryos on the grounds of their "suitability" to be re-implanted, and genetically abnormal embryos would presumably be considered "unfit" for implantation.

Therefore the case for destructive research on the early human embryo does not and cannot rest on the argument for pre-implantation diagnosis.

common fight against the common enemies of mankind.

We all know what they are — man-made and natural disasters, epidemics, the spread of genocidal weapons and the threat to the environment. But somehow they have not yet been fed into the algebraic calculations of European security.

Surely once we get that horse in front of the cart, the cart will fall into place. The security needs of Europe will become more tractable in the pursuit of a world order that has been denied us for 45 years by the Cold War, but is now a possibility bordering on a necessity.

We have already had glimpses of this vision: Nato and Warsaw Pact members working side by side on peacekeeping in the Lebanon and disaster relief in Ethiopia. We know what it looks like. Let us go for it.
Yours etc.,
HUGH HANNING,
18 Montpelier Row,
Blackheath, SE3.

From Lord Greenhill of Harrow
Sir, Your interesting leading article of April 9, "Diplomatic opportunity", would have been more useful if it had more clearly indicated the nature of the vigorous British diplomacy recommended.

I suggest that this should be the pursuit of agreement in the four-plus-two negotiations. This agreement, or treaty if possible, should aim to settle disputed boundaries, decide the disposition of Allied and Russian troops, confirm disarmament and inspection proposals and define the security role of Nato and what survives of the Warsaw Pact.

A tall order no doubt, but a settlement which would pave the way for a truly constructive development of Europe. Such a settlement need not impede the measured economic development of the Community, but should have priority over any frantic rush to political union and the ambitious demands of the European Parliament.
Yours etc.,
GREENHILL OF HARROW,
House of Lords.

minority, who do not therefore feel threatened. In the north the first-past-the-post system carried out its old tricks and under-represented the Catholics, with consequential bitterness.

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Therefore the case for destructive research on the early human embryo does not and cannot rest on the argument for pre-implantation diagnosis.

Birds and glass

From Ms Norma Benney
Sir, During the night recently I was awakened by a noise at the window of an adjoining bedroom; kept lit for purposes of tending a sick cat. I went into the room to investigate and found that a blue tit was trying to get into the room, by repeatedly rushing at the window. What I had heard was its beak and body crashing against the pane.

To try to change its mind I turned off the central light and left only a night light in a corner, furthest away from the window. Even this faint glow was enough to encourage the bird to continue its crash banging, so I turned it off, and left the room in darkness. This put an end to it.

Has any *Times* reader had a similar experience with a bird? I find it hard to understand why it would continue its attempts after crashing into glass.

Yours sincerely,
NORMA BENNEY,
Rue du Cheval-Blanc,
94220 Goult, France.

Writing on the wall

From Mr R. J. Wakeford
Sir, Mr Michael Spiller (April 9) asks at what point vandalism, in the form of inscriptions, should merit prosecution rather than preservation. Within some yards of each other we have at Kneale the following inscriptions: "F. Lapiere [the 17th-century royal upholsterer] 1695" on a marble fire surround; "Samuel Ball plomier [sic] 1748" on a pane of glass; and "Mark Lynch 27. 7. 88" on a lead sill.

The solution to Mr Spiller's problem could be calculated as the difference between Lapiere and Ball (53 years) and that between Ball and Lynch (240 years).

Yours faithfully,
R. J. WAKEFORD (Administrator),
The National Trust,
Kneale, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Better than 'Fidelio'?

From Mr Ian Warden

Sir, Having just returned home after an evening of Wagner at the Royal Opera House, I read with some concern that the inmates of Strangeways prison have had the opportunity to listen to the opening of the third act of *The Valkyrie* whilst sitting on the roof of the jail.

Tickets being a little pricey at Covent Garden, I wonder what you have to do to listen to Wagner. Yours faithfully,
IAN WARDEN,
White Crest, Old Park View,
Enfield, Middlesex,
April 10.

Bidding to be second to none

Birmingham is funding several ambitious arts projects, which are broadly supported by both Labour and Tory councillors.

Debra Craine reports on the city's long-term cultural aims

When ballerina Marion Tate first heard the news, her heart sank. The announcement that Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet would leave its London home and relocate to Birmingham was greeted with undisguised dismay by many in the capital's dance community. Like Tate, they were worried about the effects of moving a company with a strong international reputation into the regions, especially into a city which is a 1988 quality-of-life survey found to be the least desirable place in Britain.

Birmingham is out to prove them wrong. A massive programme of urban redevelopment is under way to mitigate the horrors of 1960s town planning, which turned the city's heart into what Prince Charles called "a monstrous concrete maze that only cars could find their way through". Coupled with this, a high-priority policy to enhance the quality of life through the arts is aiming to make Britain's second city a cultural capital of Europe. The lesson of Glasgow has been well learnt here.

According to Reg Hales, the council's Conservative opposition leader, "Birmingham will be the great city of the decade, if not the century, and in 10 years I think there will be more going on in Birmingham than in London."

Much is going on already. The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra is the leading British orchestra outside London - possibly the leading British orchestra, period - and recent initiatives such as the Contemporary Music Group have the city's musical life in other directions. The City Museum and Art Gallery houses the world's finest pre-Raphaelite collection. The long-established

Birmingham Repertory Theatre, one of the country's main regional producing houses, is planning a major expansion programme this year and the Alexandra Theatre has just been refurbished.

The newly-formed City of Birmingham Touring Opera is beginning to develop a national reputation, by commissioning off-beat, multi-cultural projects such as Ravi Shankar's recent opera, as is the Kokoma black dance group. So, too, is the Ikon Gallery, one of the country's leading contemporary art centres. And the city's three large arts festivals - for jazz, literature, and cinema and television, are prospering.

All this is fostered and paid for by a Labour-led City Council which sees the arts as a vital part of its overall strategy to regenerate Birmingham's economic life and make it attractive to residents and tourists alike. John Adams, who came to Birmingham three years ago as director of the Repertory Theatre, says "I find the support and knowledge of the arts from Birmingham City Council is excellent and I suspect it is probably unmatched anywhere else."

In a bid to enhance its image further, the city is spending £4 million on a new rehearsal and administrative headquarters for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet at the Birmingham Hippodrome and is giving the company - to be renamed Birmingham Royal Ballet - £1 million over three years for artistic development, a sum to be matched by the Arts Council.

Birmingham is spending £10.7 million in this financial year on arts grants, with another £8.6 million of borrowed money for capital spending on developments including the Hippodrome, the Rep and Alex Theatre. Roger Taylor, the city's chief executive,

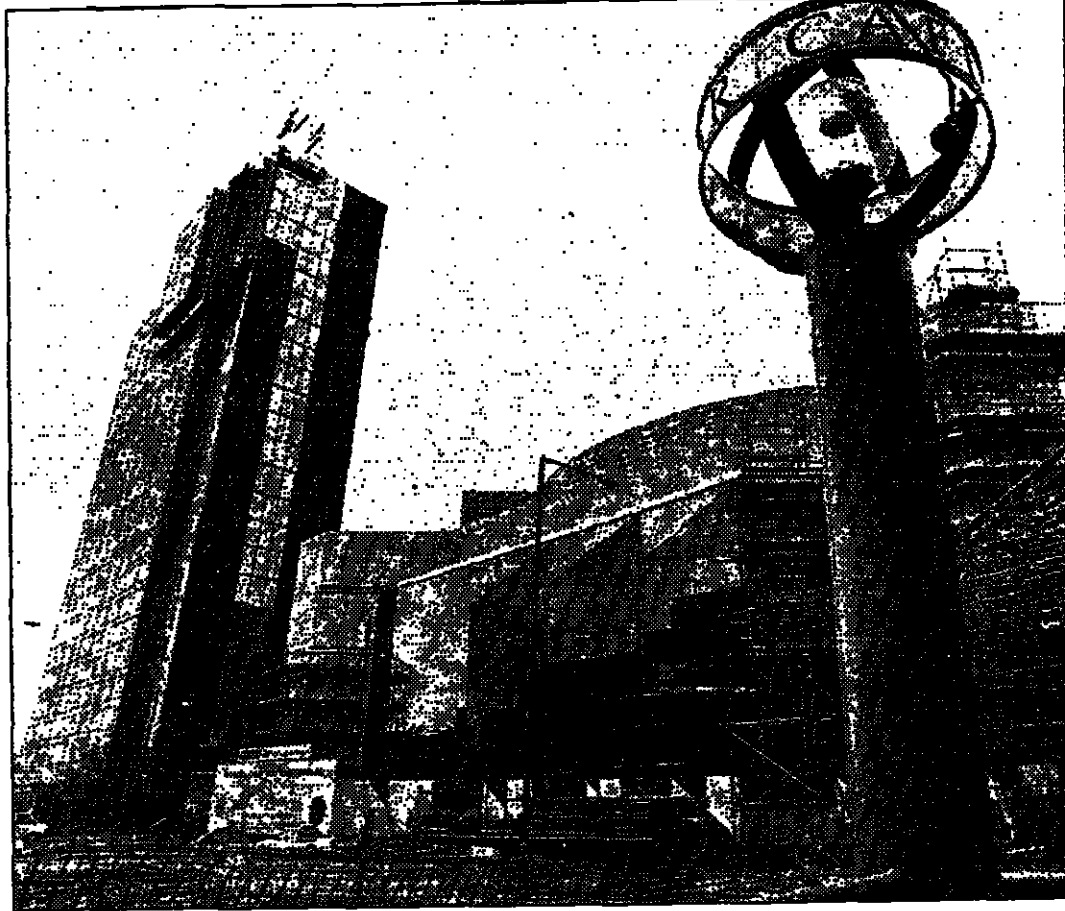
maintains that "There are huge economic benefits to communities who are prepared to invest significantly in arts development. In the next few years we shall see thousands of jobs created in the service sector as a result of leisure and artistic development."

The arts are also seen as a key point in selling the city to potential investors. "You can sell Birmingham on the back of the CBSO and you can sell Birmingham on the back of Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, and we have chosen to do so," says Councillor Albert Bore, chairman of the economic development committee.

So seriously does the city council take the arts that it has recently poached Anthony Sargent from London's South Bank, as Head of Arts. It is the only post of its kind in the country: devoted to developing a strategic approach to the arts in local government. His brief is to make the arts more accessible to Brummies, and "to make the quality of life for the people who live and work in this city one of unimaginable excitement and richness."

"At the end of five years, you will find a vastly increased number of people who will say their lives are in some ways richer and their hearts touched by the artistic life of the city. And yes, the consequences of those policies will be good for business and tourism, and Birmingham's international prestige will go up," says Sargent.

In what must be a unique display of local-government bipartisanship, the council's arts policy enjoys all-party support. If Birmingham has its Terry Dicks-style castigators of public arts funding, they tend to come not from the Tories but from the



At the heart: the new Birmingham Convention Centre, incorporating the new Symphony Hall

ruling Labour group's own left, which would rather see the money spent on improved social services and housing.

But Hales does offer one warning. "We as a Conservative group have worked on the principle that the day must come when these theatres are self-supporting. I would not see any of our theatres close for lack of money, but we are not prepared to shovel money into the arts without knowing we are getting value from our investment."

Councillor Bryan Bird, chairman of the leisure services committee, who was involved in negotiations to bring Sadler's Wells to Birmingham and is now negotiating with the New D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, says the city's arts policy has been so successful that it has turned down other arts organizations which wanted to relocate to Birmingham. "We are selective here. We are not a soft touch. We want quality and value for money from our organizations."

The showpiece of the council's arts policy is the new £27 million Symphony Hall now under construction as part of the £47 million International Convention Centre in the heart of Birmingham. In 1991, the 2,200-seat hall will be the new home of the CBSO, and according to the hall's director Andrew Jowett, "if it works acoustically we will have the UK's finest concert hall. It will then bring Birmingham's reputation very much to the fore internationally and give the city

the sort of cultural profile it is seeking."

Under the baton of Simon Rattle, the CBSO has risen spectacularly in the orchestral rankings during the 1980s. Rattle, who has so far never swerved from his commitment to Birmingham, despite the temptations of top conducting appointments elsewhere, is currently enlarging the playing strength. "We have been able, more than any other arts organization, to act in an ambassadorial role for Birmingham City Council," says the CBSO's chief executive, Edward Smith.

That is a role the city is hoping Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will also play effectively when it becomes the Birmingham Royal Ballet in August. Peter Wright, SWRB director, sees the relocation as a "marvellous opportunity to make a bold, brave step" that will allow the 60-strong company to enhance its repertoire with bigger productions and more adventurous programming, while increasing its touring commitment to the regions.

"It is time to spread our roots. What has been happening in the regions is very exciting. There is almost too much dance based in London, and not really enough funding from London itself. If other cities have got the money, then we should go there."

Initially, however, the Birmingham Royal Ballet will perform only five weeks a year in its new home, which will be matched by

five weeks in London, while the company's foreign touring will be cut back to about four weeks a year. Over the next five years Wright hopes to increase the company's Birmingham season to ten weeks a year. But is Birmingham ready for that much classical dance?

Peter Tod, director of the Hippodrome, which is paying £1 million to fund the physical aspects of the SWRB move, believes that the Birmingham Royal Ballet will make his theatre one of the greatest dance centres in Europe. Yet he is aware that before this can happen, audiences will have to be developed. Tod admits that certain SWRB programmes have not achieved their box office targets in past Hippodrome seasons. "But we are not going to fall at the first hurdle. I am optimistic that the Midlands will recognize the opportunities of the company coming to Birmingham. It is the biggest arts coup of the decade."

Meanwhile, as the company prepares for its final London season as SWRB next week (starting April 24), the individual dancers are deciding whether to make the move to Birmingham. Unlike some, Marion Tate will be going, although she is still worried that the company's international reputation will suffer, or that the money will run out. "But I would not like the people of Birmingham to think we are ungrateful so-and-sos," says Tate. "It is very nice to be wanted, in this day and age."



Simon Rattle: the CBSO conductor is also seen as an important cultural ambassador for his city

Strong British showing at Belgian culture binge

FESTIVAL

Keith Potter

Ars Musica
Brussels

CONTEMPORARY music festivals are still springing up all over Europe. The Belgian festival "Ars Musica" is a fledgling; its birth was reported in these pages only last year. Its return in an enlarged form suggests, however, that it already occupies a strong position, its three weeks being packed with events - too many, say some.

Avoiding the old Donau-schwingen model of attracting a largely professional audience with as many premieres as possible, "Ars Musica" has set out to survey the now considerable legacy of New Music. There is also an effort to make the music accessible to a wider public. It is good to report that all five of the concerts I attended played to good houses in Belgium Radio's large hall, in part because of good co-operation with an international educational project mounted with the Jeunesses Musicales youth organization, celebrating its 50th birthday.

This year's "Ars Musica" also saw the launch of Interfestival, which is intended to help the flow of ideas between different European festivals of new music, and in particular to allow expensive large-scale projects to be mounted

collaboratively. Mauricio Kagel's vast music-theatre project *Staats-theater* was mentioned in this context. It will not surprise those familiar with Italy's uncanny ability to find funds for such enterprises that the organization is to be based in the small town of Trento, which is remembered for the Council of Trent but is hardly a metropolis.

Interfestival appears to be something of a closed shop, which is wise if it prevents unwieldiness, but regrettable if it leads to tedious games of musical politics. Britain, at least, has been lucky: both our leading contemporary music festivals - the Almeida in Islington, and Huddersfield - are among the 10 members. Interfestival has the potential to produce definite results at a time when talk of greater European cultural contact too often sinks on its way across the Channel in either direction.

Meanwhile, this year's "Ars Musica" presented rich musical offerings. The London-based Arditti Quartet gave two recitals which proved that they are still improving even their own high standards. Among the works they played, the British composer Richard Barrett's recent *Open and Close* emerged as notably powerful.

A whole evening devoted to orchestral works by Wolfgang Rihm, though, presented little evidence that this alarmingly prolific West German composer has anything to say, despite his equally alarming talent for conjuring new timbral extravaganzas from the large forces his status permits him to command.

A whole day devoted to Berio's *Sequence* - recitals and discussions - tended to emphasize the element of circus in their performances. Notable interpretations from players new to me included those of the Swiss oboist Christophe Dorsaz, the English trumpeter Ron Spigelman, and the Swedish guitarist Magnus Andersson.

Promising melodrama is talked to death

THEATRE

Alasdair Cameron

Antony

Citizens', Glasgow

ALEXANDRE Dumas' *Antony* was a succès de scandale when first produced in 1831. Not only did the play portray an adulterous affair without a shred of censure, it also mirrored recent events in Dumas' own life. This revival is both enjoyable and interesting, but it is difficult to appreciate what makes the play so special.

Antony (motto, "Now and forever") is a mysterious founding, with an equally mysterious large private income, who prowls the

world moodily. He decides that Adèle d'Hervey is his one true love. Alas, he cannot, unlike Jack Worthing, acquire relatives to order. Adèle is married off to an older man of good family.

Five years later, Antony returns just in time to stop Adèle's carriage horses from bolting. He is injured and carried into her house, where his presence forces a conflict between Adèle's strict morality and her natural passions.

Gradually she discovers the reality of Dumas' existentialist thesis that, in all societies, no matter how supposedly moral or rigorously stratified, human passions obey their own laws. As the setting is early-19th-century *haut-bourgeois* France, a tragedy of manners inevitably follows.

The plot of *Antony* cries out to

be used as an opera libretto. Director and translator Robert David MacDonald recognizes this in so far as he uses a *leitmotiv*, heard whenever the lovers appear. But Antony and Adèle have a passion for debate as well as for each other, and the few moments of full-blown melodrama in the production stand out as cases of action in a desert of talk. Fortunately for the audience, the music between human nature and human society takes place on Terry Bartlett's tasteful mottled grey set of draped urns and obelisks, glittering with sumptuous gowns and beautifully lit by Gerry Jenkinson.

Among the familiar Citizens' faces in the cast, Angela Chadfield as the frothy Vicomtesse de Lacy is a delight. She is especially good

in a ballroom scene, among predatory guests who are all smiles and subtext. Julia Blalock as Adèle, a virtuous woman who at the last prefers death to dishonour, and Mark Lewis, looking slightly post-Byronic as Antony, take a long time to convince us that there is more than words flowing through their veins. Once they do, the final act comes vividly to life and Adèle's death and Antony's self-sacrifice are made human and involving.

As an interesting byway of European drama, *Antony* is a fitting choice for Glasgow's year as European City of Culture. Even if one is not convinced of *Antony*'s status as an example of classic drama, one nevertheless admires the Citizens' courage in producing it so thoughtfully and beautifully.

A philosopher speaks

Heather Neill meets Michael Frayn, whose first play for six years is about to open

Michael Frayn has moved into new work premises - an elegant flat above rolling gardens in North London. A technological arsenal, including a word-processor for writing in Russian, is at his heart. The place could be a metaphor for the man: charming, benignly curious about human nature, but with a tough, efficient centre.

Such a comparison would certainly prove a point he makes in *Constructions*, a collection of philosophical propositions published in 1974: "The metaphoricality of the universe is bottomless. Everything can be pressed into service in its turn to stand for something else."

In the same book comes a revealing observation on writing: "The essence of the story is that the audience doesn't participate. Things roll forward inevitably... We see a world from which we are absent."

Look, Look, however - his first original play since *Benefactors* in 1984 - does give the audience a role. It is a comedy (complementary to his backstage/ frontstage farce *Noises Off*) in which actors play members of the audience. "It's about how people make sense of what they see in front of their eyes," says Frayn. "And, conversely, how actors onstage are an audience for the audience." In the midst of what Frayn calls a "fendishly complicated" exercise, is the exasperated "author". Apparently,

says Frayn, "a survey showed that only 23 per cent of an audience knew the name of the author as they left the theatre."

His own name has been much in evidence recently, through an epistolary novel, *The Trick of It*, a film about a retired suburbanite walking from Land's End to John O'Groats, *First and Last*, and a translation of *The Cherry Orchard* which has just finished a West End run. He also achieved a long-held ambition to have a production of Trifonov's play about Moscow life, *Exchange*, mounted in this country. Frayn translated it.

Martin Jarvis, who stars in *Exchange*, reports that Frayn was "protective of Trifonov's text, even more than his own, perhaps because Trifonov was not there to refer to [he died in 1981]."

The journalist Neil Ascherson was Frayn's colleague on *The Guardian*, where they were both graduate trainees in the Fifties, and later at *The Observer*. "He doesn't do violence to his characters. There is a fictive element in journalism in which characters are coarsely compelled into stereotypes: take the mould off and you have 'one of these'."

"Michael is at the other end of this: he advances awe-struck into a forest of individuals on whom you would not dare to clap a mould. And yet they are all recognizable. He is a playwright of ideas, but they are ideas that belong to people."

Like many journalists, Ascherson has a soft spot for *Towards the End of the Morning*, Frayn's



Michael Frayn: he is charming and benignly curious, but tough

1967 novel about life on a newspaper, where the hero is feeling the pressures of commissioning the "Countrywide" columns and crosswords. Frayn, says Ascherson, has a journalist's sense of humour: "an appreciation of the pompous person falling on his bum. But his writing doesn't have the cockiness of most journalists. He is an enquirer, a humble writer in a way."

Frayn's colleagues may be mostly affectionate, but they usually also point to tougher qualities. Martin Jarvis refers to a "stringy strength": Michael Blakemore (who directed three of Frayn's plays) says "He is open-minded, but will go to the stake if he feels strongly about something - for instance, if he disagrees about

casting." Ascherson claims he is not nearly as "tolerant, patient and sweet" as he appears. "He has," says Ascherson, "what used to be called 'a good mind'." After studying Russian on an interpreter's course during his National Service, (as did Alan Bennett), Frayn read philosophy at Cambridge. Even now, he says, "philosophy seems to get in all over the place, like King Charles's head". Blakemore sums up his approach as "passionately moderate; he is somewhat sceptical of extremes". Frayn talks of inventing a "tremendously elaborate metaphysical system to explain the world."

Look, Look opens tonight at the Aldwych Theatre, London WC2 (01-836 6404).

Drop me a line

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

AND so, this Easter Weekend shall henceforward be known as The Coming of the Cable. Faced with five hours of the Mandela concert and three of snooker occupying the whole of BBC 2, four hours of *The Ten Commandments* on ITV, edible dormice on BBC 1 and Indian miniature painting on Channel 4, I decided that it was time to plug in the cable.

This is what those of us in central London, with landlords who do not want dishes cluttering up their rooftops, have instead of a satellite dish. It enters your living room under the carpet, much like a telephone wire, plugs in to the television, and comes complete with yet another remote control. What this gives you, at any rate in central London, is a choice of another 20 channels apart from the big four.

Of those 20, three come from Sky, four from BSB, and the rest from a range of worldwide sources, including Cable International and an amazing specialist channel live from Dubai, where they play *Wheel of Fortune* in Arabic: utterly compulsive on a wet afternoon.

Best of all is a channel called Westcan, which simply divides up the screen into eight little squares and shows you simultaneously what is playing on several different channels: you only get the sound of the one in the middle, but as most of them are showing old movies that you know anyway, it affords harmless amusement when even the *Amic Wheel of Fortune* starts to pall.

Each of these channels now costs anywhere from £2 to £8 per month, and cable operators will presumably vary and raise the prices once they have found out where there is the greatest demand. A station called HVC already seems to be specializing in soft porn with such titles as *Sex at 7,000 Feet*.

Original programming still seems to be sparse, though Angela Rippon turns up for Sky with a show built entirely around old newsreels, and Sir Robin Day is promised in a series for BSB which I have yet to locate. Nobody seems to be programming even the old movies in any coherent way according to studios or dates or directors. They are just slung on as though the cable operator had picked up a job lot at his local video store.

More reports from the cable front when I have managed to uncover Bravo and the Shopping Channel, which I hope will also prove to be in Arabic.

Are we all together?

CONCERT

Stephen Pettitt

Carmina Quartet/
Uchida
Wigmore Hall

ONE of the marks of a fine string quartet is an evident absence of a leader. Even in music where the first violin plays a naturally dominant role, the listener should never feel that one player is dragging his or her colleagues along by the scruff of the neck, or that the piece is being unceremoniously pounded like a lump of dough into a shape decided by one ego.

Many quartets fail to understand this simple principle. On the evidence of Saturday's recital the young Carmina Quartet seems to be in that category. From the beginning, Haydn's Quartet in G Op 76 No 1, promised plenty of ardent playing but was marred by the over-prominence of Matthias Enderle, the first violinist. His manner led to some ugly, strident sounds and much doubtful intonation, and instead of the music first being allowed to suggest its own nuances, it seemed heavily imposed upon, most blatantly in the almost comical tempo fluctuations of the Menuetto. Interpretation is of course vital, but the right balance has to be found.

Mendelssohn's late Quartet in F minor, Op 80, suited these players' temperaments better. Even so, its stormy, dark nature encouraged too consistently melodramatic a response. There was no denying the performance's intensity, yet frequently there was also coarseness, with the first violin lapsing in the Adagio into a cloying, sickly vibrato, denuding the movement of its subtlety.

From time to time we were offered evidence of a rich-toned viola (Wendy Champney) and glimpses of a characterful cello (Stephen Goerner), but what was needed was the more considered, more egalitarian approach of a quartet like the Vogel, whose members also more obviously listen to each other.

There were also some over-assertive, if undeniably athletic, contributions from Mitsuko Uchida, who joined the quartet for Schumann's E flat major Piano Quintet (this piece is not quite a piano concerto). The uncomformably mannered portamento of the first movement, a certain heaviness in the Scherzo, and a singular lack of light and shade in the Adagio all additionally scarred this reading. By the time the finale had begun, the undifferentiated, hard sound of the ensemble, primarily inspired by Enderle, had started to hurt.

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FASHION by Liz Smith

All dressed up again with everywhere to go

A coat dress is cut with new curves; a wrapover style is given a slinkier drape — the dress is back in vogue again, exerting its universal appeal

After dithering for a decade over assembling the power suit, it is the dress that supplies the simplest solution in the end. The notion of owning one stylishly simple number that you just step into and zip closed — or wrap and button — has growing appeal.

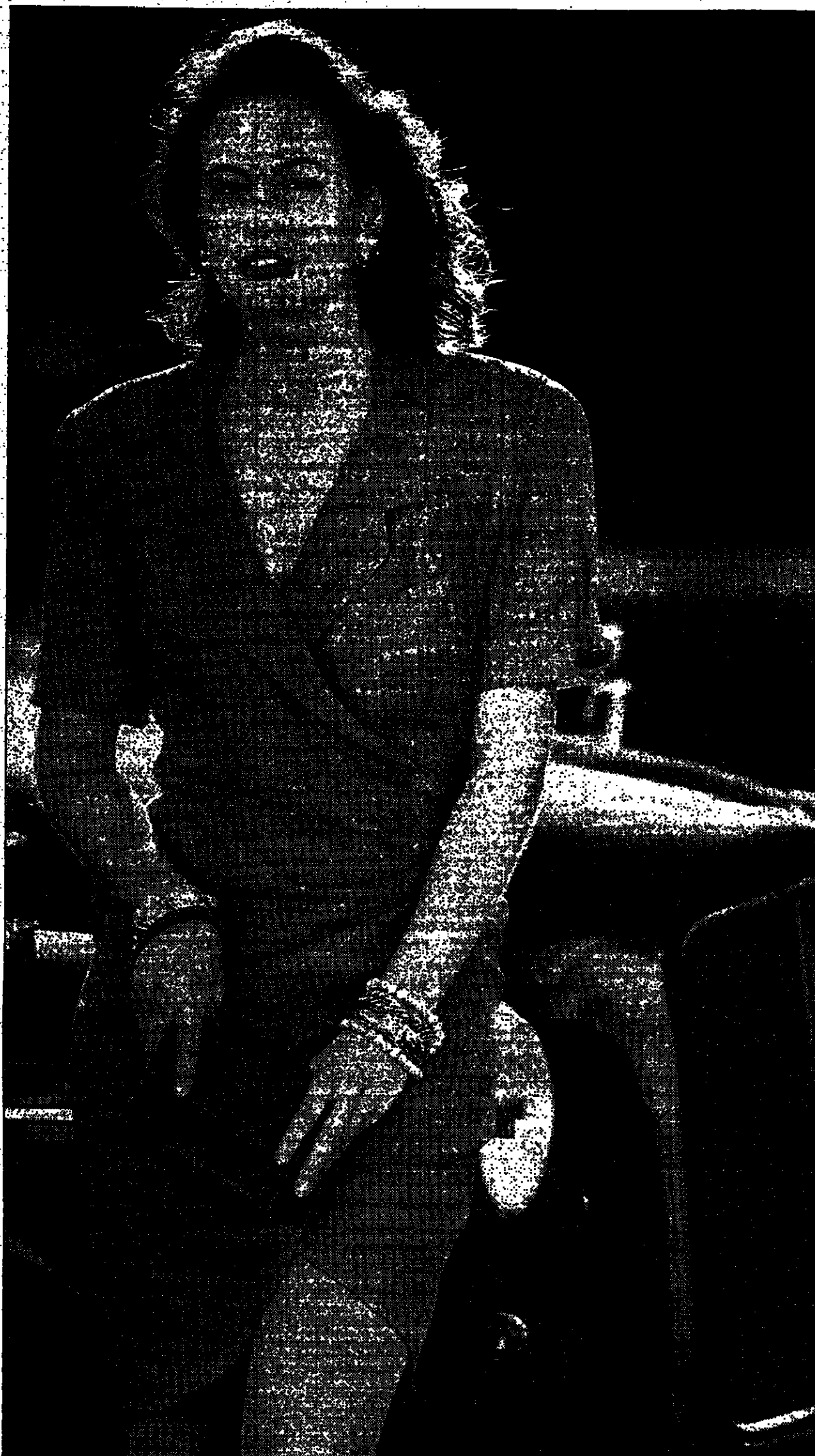
Designers on both sides of the Atlantic have anticipated the change in mood from the over-serious tailoring of the eighties to a more feminine, easy style for the Nineties. Slip-hugging dresses for day and, fifty little frocks for night, often with an asymmetric neckline or a train of chiffon at the back, cashayed through the recent shows in Milan, London, Paris and New York, looking poised and new. Striding through every collection for next season, too, came the longer-length jacket that barely covers its matching turtleneck, brief skirt, and in many instances dispensed entirely with the need for anything other than a pair of tights or leggings underneath. With fluid fabrics coming into vogue and soft tweed, jersey, crepe and georgette replacing firm wool and gabardine, all that distinguishes the shapely and elongated new jacket from its fashionable sister, the coat dress, is an inch — or two or three.

Designers like Yves Saint Laurent and Ralph Lauren whose whole clothes ethos appears rooted in the practical realities of separate classic pieces, such as blazer or cropped blouson with trousers or simple skirt, regularly redesign the coat dress to suit the mood of the season with satin tuxedo lapels and jewelled buttons for night, with epaulettes and bush-shirt pockets, or streamlined in sleek pinstripes and crepe with a line-up of gilt buttons for day.

The designer Karl Lagerfeld, pioneer of the Principal Boy look of leggings worn with a long, lean jacket on whose tails the coat dress has made its entrance, is quoted in American *Vogue* championing the universal appeal of a pretty dress. "Dresses are a bit like jeans," he says. "They will always exist. They disappear and then always come back. They are the most feminine pieces in a woman's wardrobe."

Fashion's other strong new line for next season is the chemise. A trim, short dress, often in jersey, the chemise falls straight from gently padded shoulders and skirts and streamlines every curve. But there are dresses in the shops right now for anyone interested in enjoying this important new trend.

A softly tailored coat dress with a curvy cut in a light-weight summery wool or vis-



cose blend has all the reassuring structure of a suit, yet somehow feels more pulled together and fine. A wrapover dress can be easily layered over a T-shirt or cami-sole. A roomy shirtdress has enough volume and "give" to arrange and belt in slim proportions and is as easy to wear as a simple bush jacket. In fact it can be worn as a jacket, unbuttoned, layered over another shirt or T-shirt with skirt or trousers. The slim-hipped can then cinch it in with a belt.

While a streamlining dress

can flatter the less-than-perfect figure more than a collection of haphazard separates ever can, it is important to honestly assess your problems. Wrapover dresses fail to flatter a big bosom or broad shoulders. A belt does not help minimize a wide waist.

Because a dress is not designed to interact with other clothes, it somehow seems to be an extravagance. A dress is presumed to have one look, *c'est tout*. Wrong. One good dress can perform more successfully than a bunch of mismatched separates. It can

be made to work, layered in conjunction with other pieces, over, say, a simple T-shirt or turtleneck, sashed or belted, worn straight or loose and smock-like. The dress is currently redeeming its reputation as a worthwhile investment.



Above left: Khaki coat dress, £129, Mondri, from the Mondri shop, Chelsea Harbour, SW10; Selfridges, W1; Harrods, SW1; Fenwick, Newcastle; House of Fraser stores nationwide. Pendant, £66, Pallini, from Liberty, W1; Harrods, SW1; Harvey Nichols SW1; Valentine, 44 Church Road, Stanmore. Leather bag, £110, Mulberry, 11-12 Gess Court, W1; Liberty, W1; Harrods, SW1; Harvey Nichols, SW1

Above: Sand shirtdress, £189, Weekend from MaxMara, 32 Sloane Street, SW1; Valentine, 44 Church Road, Stanmore; Charade, 26 Hilgrove Street, St. Helier, Jersey; Zaggar, 3 Tindall Street, Chelmsford. Silk camisole, £29.95; cream suede gloves, £27.95; both Fenwick, 63 New Bond Street, W1.

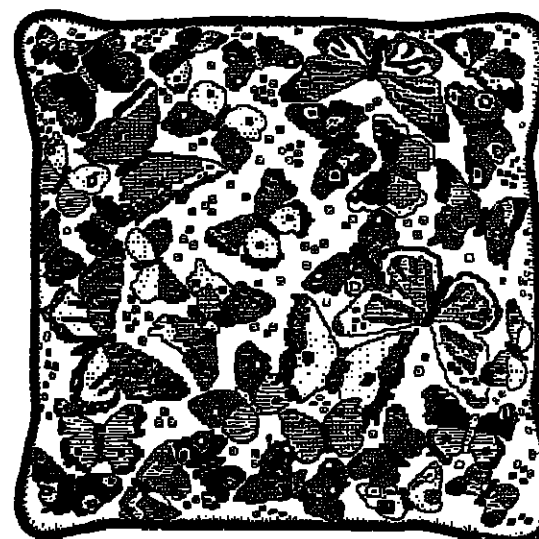
Left: Coat dress in lime green pinstripes, £135, Precis, from Selfridges, W1; Harrods, SW1; Rackhams, Birmingham; John Lewis, Edinburgh; Bainbridges, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Far left: Coral crepe short-sleeved dress, £283, Georges Rech, from Fortnum & Mason, W1; Harrods, SW1; Le Place, 6 Church Road, Stanmore; Whites, 17 West Park, Harrogate. Tan suede bag, £21.95, Selfridges, W1; Fenwick, W1. Gift and pearl bracelets, from £50; earrings, £19, Sarah Booth, from Harrods, SW1; Harvey Nichols, SW1; French Dressing, 104 George Street, Altrincham; 31 Bond Street, Leeds; The Gallery, 43 Clayton Square, Liverpool

Make up by Charlie Duffy
Hair by Peter Forrester for Daniel Galvin
Photographs by JOHN BISHOP

SUSAN DUCKWORTH'S BUTTERFLIES FOR

EHRMAN TAPESTRY



Susan Duckworth's butterflies crowd together on this tapestry cushion creating a wonderful kaleidoscope of phosphorescent colour. On a speckled cream background, vivid reds, apricot, topaz and ultramarines combine with paler powder blues, ochre, Venetian red, carnation and cinnamon brown in a cloud of overlapping wings. These fresh and cheerful colours make this one of Susan Duckworth's very best tapestries, and it is stitched on 14 mesh canvas to capture the subtle detail of the design.

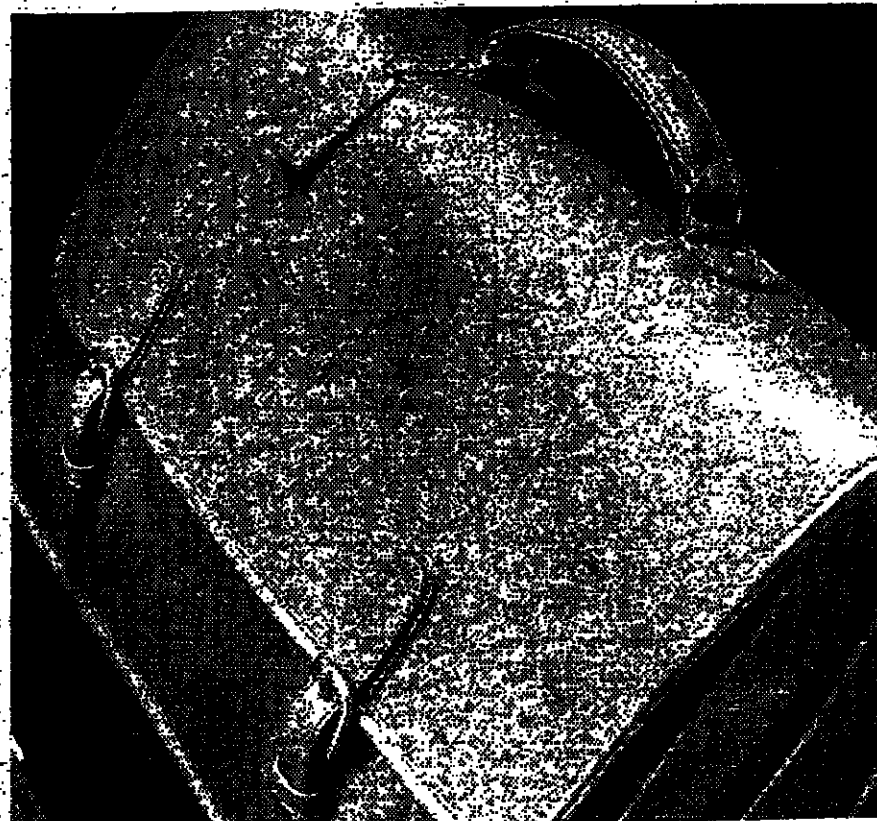
Measuring 13in x 13in the design is printed in full colour on 14 holes to the inch canvas. It is worked in either half-cross or tent stitch and enough wool from the Appleton tapestry range is included to complete the tapestry in either. The kit comes complete with canvas, wool, needle and instruction leaflet. All for £28.50 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST — no stamp needed.

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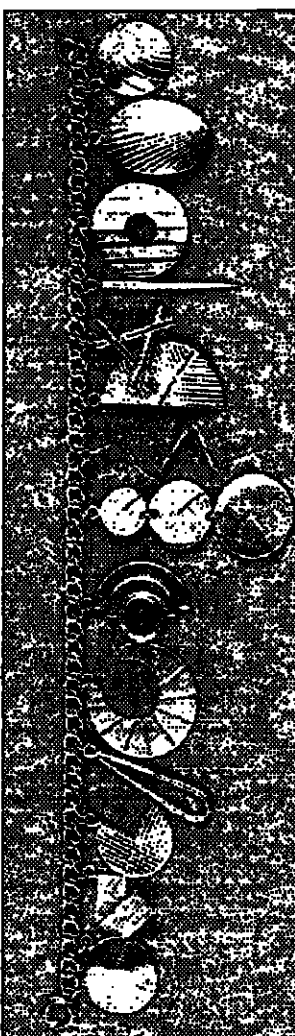
A proud past

GIEVES & Hawkes, the celebrated naval and military tailors who occupy the elegant 1730 house at No. 1 Savile Row, are justifiably proud not only of their distinguished past, but also their historical links with the house. The headquarters of the Royal Geographical Society from 1871 to 1912, it was in the glass-domed map-room at the back, where Gieves' tailoring is displayed today, that adventures such as Livingstone, Burton and Scott planned expeditions and where Livingstone's body lay in state before burial in Westminster Abbey.

Robert Gieve, the fifth-generation head of the naval tailoring establishment, tomorrow celebrates his family's links with two explorers and career officers, John Hanning Speke and Richard Burton, by hosting the party following the opening of *Mountains of the Moon*, a film about Speke and Burton's Nile expedition.

Long before the businesses merged, Nelson, as a naval officer, was kitted out by James Gieve. Thomas Hawkes would have measured Wellington for his army uniform in 1771. "The vicomte's cap and tunic worn by Livingstone at his meeting with Stanley on Lake Tanganyika was from Gieves, and Stanley's helmet and togs from Hawkes of 14 Piccadilly," Gieve says.

HOTLINE



Special edition: each charm is a miniature of an earring

Special charm

THE thrill of the chase and an eye that distinguishes trash from treasure when collecting costume jewellery have established Tania Hunter and Veronica Manassis as leading specialists in 20th-century jewellery.

Partners in Cobra & Bellamy, their jewel box of a shop off Sloane Square, Chelsea, the two have pioneered the return to fashion of skilfully crafted pieces in simple pot metal, rhodium and sterling silver of the 1940s and 1950s made by American companies such as Trifari, Miriam Haskell and Eisenberg.

Manassis' Cobra originally specialized in the decorative arts of the Vienna Secession and Hunter's Bellamy, of Antiquarius, King's Road, Chelsea, in Art Nouveau jewellery.

The pair, both former actresses, met bidding for the same clock, which Hunter successfully won.

To celebrate a decade of passionate collecting, Cobra & Bellamy has created a special-edition charm bracelet and necklace, each solid silver charm a miniature of one of their best-selling earrings. The bracelet, a numbered special edition, costs £390, the necklace £430.

● Cobra & Bellamy is at 149 Sloane Street, SW1; Liberty, W1; Joseph, 26 Sloane Street, SW1.

PREVIEW

TODAY Theatre & Cabaret

WEDNESDAY Rock, Jazz & World Music • THURSDAY Opera, Dance & Books • FRIDAY Classical Music • MONDAY Art & Auctions

The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

NEW IN LONDON

ALICE'S DINER: Odd-sounding mask, mime and improvisation extravaganza set in a restaurant where every dish is on, no matter how fantastic. Bush, Shepherd Bush Green, W12 (01-743 3388). Underground: Shepherd Bush. Preview from today, 8pm. Opens Fri, 7pm. Then Tues-Sun, 8pm, 10pm. Until May 13.

BLOOD, SWEAT AND FEARS: Last in the Black Theatre Season: the dreams of three young workers in a burger bar, one of whom (like the author) suffers from sickle cell anaemia: how will he cope? Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (01-748 3354). Underground: Hammersmith. Preview Sat, 7.30pm. Opens April 23, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, 10pm. Until May 12.

CRUX: The excellent Paines Plough company with a play by the author of the powerful *Ironmaster*, based on the life and longings of a revolutionary mystic burned at the stake in 1310. Lyric Studio, King Street, W6 (01-741 8701). Underground: Hammersmith. Opens tonight-Sat, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4.30pm, 10pm. Until May 5.

TARTUFFE: Jostine Varma's ingenious all-Asian version of Moliere's returns to the National after its successful tour. National Theatre (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (01-928 2252). Underground: Waterloo. Tomorrow, Thurs, 7.30-9.40pm. Then in repertoire (7 performance, until May 31), 8.50.

THE GUV'NOR: Christopher Godwin plays Henry Irving and his ancient valet in one-man-show about the life and times of the first actor knight. The Young Vic Studio, 65 The Cut, SE1 (01-928 8363). Underground: Waterloo. Preview tonight, 8pm. Opens tomorrow, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm, 5.50. Until May 12.

LORCA FESTIVAL: Evening of three new translated Lorca plays performed by award-winning Ragazzi Theatre Company. *The Shoemaker's Wonderful Wife*, *Buster Keaton's Spin*, *The Puppet Play of Don Cristobal*. Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, SW11 (01-223 2223). British Rail: Clapham Junction. Preview tomorrow, 8.15pm. Opens Thurs, 8.15pm. Then Wed-Sun, 8.15pm, 10pm. Until April 29.

CONTINUING

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL: New season opens with transfer of Barry Kyle's production, cooly received at last year's Stratford. Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-638 8891). Underground: Barbican/Moorgate/Sat. Paul's. Tomorrow-Sat, 7.30-10.30pm, mat Thurs, Sat, 2pm. In repertoire, Eves and Sat mats 8.15-10.30pm, Thurs mats 8.15-10.30pm, Thurs mats 8.15-10.30pm.

BENT: Powerful performance by Ian McKellen as a doomed homosexual in a Nazi camp; the words-only love scene with Michael Cumpston is unmatched for conveying triumph within torment. Last week. Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-379 6107). Underground: Embankment/Charing Cross. Mon-Sat, 8-10.30pm, mat Sat, 4-6.30pm, 10.30-11.50pm.

BESIDE HERSELF: Sexual abuse, the how and why. Sarah Daniels's new play begins with humorous cracks and then comes to the crunch. Royal Court, Sloane Street, SW1 (01-730 1745). Underground: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-27, mat Sat 24-27.

EXCHANGE: Martin Jarvis heads the cast in Michael Frayn's translation of long-running Moscow hit by Trifonov: flat-searching and heart-searching in modern Soviet Union.

VALENTINE: Another Love Story. JB Bennett and Edward Fox, who also

Getting the flavour of it



Television audiences caught a glimpse of the new, dark-haired Joanna Lumley (pictured here) at the Olivier Awards, and theatre audiences in Brighton tonight will understand the reason for the change when they watch her play a South American in a new comedy mysteriously titled *Vanilla*. Its author, Jane Stanton Hitchcock, has hitherto written only for Off-Broadway but happening to meet Harold Pinter on one of his visits to New York, she handed him a script of her new play. He liked it enough to offer to direct it, and so the Brighton opening will be her first work premiere away from home. She calls the play a comedy of "vamp social climbing and greed taking place in a lavish New York party". Pressed to explain the title, nobody in the company was prepared to do so, the producer, Michael Redington, stone-walling for them all by saying, "The meaning of the title remains to be seen". Perhaps Pinter's interest in Latin America and the name of the Lumley character, Miralda, are clues. The cast of eight includes Sian Phillips, and after two weeks at Brighton and a week at Bath, the play opens at the Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue. *Vanilla*, Theatre Royal, New Road, Brighton (0273 28488). Opens tonight 7.45pm, £4.50 to £14. Then Mon-Sat at 7.45pm, mat Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm. Until April 28. *Jeremy Kingston*

836 9987. Underground: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri, 7.45-9.55pm, Sat, 8.15-10.25pm, mat Wed, 5-8.10pm and Sat, 5-7.10pm, 8.15-10.50pm.

MAN OF THE MOMENT: Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles superb in Ayckbourn's mystery thriller comedy: good meets evil on the Costa del Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri, 7.45-10.15pm, Sat, 8.30-11pm, mat Wed, 5-8.30pm and Sat, 5-7.30pm, 8.15-10.50pm.

VOLPONE: Ian McKellen (as the Fox) and Nicholas Hytner (fresh from directing *Miss Saigon*) renew the partnership that created a superb *Don Carlos* in Manchester two years ago. With Denis Lawson as Mosca. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Mon 24-28, Tues-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm, 5.50-12.50pm, Thurs 5.50-12.50pm, mat Sat 5.50-12.50pm. Until May 5.

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE: Spirit-lifting Sondheim musical inspired by Saurat's painting of a million dots; the music may be prickly on first hearing but the staging is marvellous. Great performances by Philip Quast and Mari Friedman. National Theatre (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (01-928 2252). Underground: Waterloo. Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, Sat, 2.15pm. Eves, 8.15-10.30pm, Wed mats 2.15-4.15pm, Thurs mats 2.15-4.15pm.

SINGER: Antony Sher plays a chameleon-like Jew clambering from Nazi camp to west wealth in modern Britain; a riveting performance in Peter Flannery's dark comedy. The Pl, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (01-638 8891). Underground: Barbican/Moorgate/Sat. Paul's. Tomorrow-Sat, 7.30-10.30pm, mat Sat, 2pm. In repertoire, Eves 8.15-10.30pm, Thurs mats 8.15-10.30pm.

THE PH. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (01-638 8891). Underground: Barbican/Moorgate/Sat. Paul's. Tomorrow-Sat, 7.30-10.30pm, mat Sat, 2pm. In repertoire, Eves 8.15-10.30pm, Thurs mats 8.15-10.30pm.

LEEDS: Carousal. Welcome revival of the 1945 Rogers & Hammerstein musical. Lavish production, life-size carnival horses, etc, exploit the new stage. West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill, Leeds (0113 242111). Preview Fri, 7.30pm. Opens Sat, 8pm. Then Mon 24, Tues-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, 5.50-12.50pm. Until May 19.

LEICESTER: Another Love Story. JB Bennett and Edward Fox, who also

directs, in Frederick Lonsdale's 1944 comedy: the troubles of the rich and well-to-do who turn out to be almost like us, really. Haymarket, Belgrave Gate, G533 (01-579 7777). Preview from Thurs, 7.30pm. Fri and Sat, 8pm. Opens April 24, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, mat May 2 and 23, 3pm (from April 29, mat Sat, 3pm), 25-28pm. Until May 28.

MANCHESTER: I Accept My Life. Adaptation of the transcript of Arthur Miller's appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1956. Members of *The Crucible* company in a semi-staged show. Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square (01-533 9833). Fri and April 27, 11.30pm-2am, 22.50.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: The Comedy of Errors. Lord Judge directs David Barrett, Graham Turner and other comic localities in a usually surefire romp. Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 258282). Preview from Thurs, 7.30pm. Opens April 25, 7pm. Then in repertoire with *Much Ado about Nothing*. Preview 25-27, from April 28, 25-28.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: *Twelfth Night* and *Cressida*. Ralph Fiennes, Amanda Root as the young lovers adrift in a lachrymose world; some company directed by Sam Mendes. Swan Theatre (0789 258282). Preview from tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens April 26, 7pm. Then in repertoire with *The Last Days of Pompeii*. Preview 25-27, from April 28, 25-28.

AT HOME WITH THE HARDYS: Paris Studio, Lower Regent Street, SW1 (no phone). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Sat (and April 28): Doors 7.45pm, show 8pm. No admission for latecomers. Free subject to availability. A recording for a new series of the wonderful BBC Radio Comedy show, starring Jeremy Hardy, Kit Hollerbach, Paul B. Davies and

Compiled by Karl Knight

Items for inclusion should be sent at least 10 days before publication to Tony Patrick, Preview, The Times, 1, Pall Mall, London SW1 9JN

TELEVISION TOP 10

National top 10 programmes in the week ending 7th April 1990

Rank	Programme	Time
1	EastEnders (Thurs/Sat)	12.15pm
2	Neighbours (Mon/Sat)	12.15pm
3	Neighbours (Tues/Sat)	12.15pm
4	Neighbours (Wed/Sat)	12.15pm
5	Neighbours (Thurs/Sat)	12.15pm
6	Neighbours (Fri/Sat)	12.15pm
7	Neighbours (Sat/Sat)	12.15pm
8	Neighbours (Sun/Sat)	12.15pm
9	Neighbours (Mon/Sat)	12.15pm
10	Neighbours (Tues/Sat)	12.15pm

Source: Broadcasters' Audience Research Board

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

THE WOMAN IN BLACK (White) - Kasimov (Black), USSR 1974. Can you see how White finishes off her king's side attack? Solution in tomorrow's Times.

Solution to yesterday's position: 1... Rxc3 2... Nc1 3... Rxc3 4... Nc1 5... Rxc3 6... Nc1 7... Rxc3 8... Nc1 9... Rxc3 10... Nc1 11... Rxc3 12... Nc1 13... Rxc3 14... Nc1 15... Rxc3 16... Nc1 17... Rxc3 18... Nc1 19... Rxc3 20... Nc1 21... Rxc3 22... Nc1 23... Rxc3 24... Nc1 25... Rxc3 26... Nc1 27... Rxc3 28... Nc1 29... Rxc3 30... Nc1 31... Rxc3 32... Nc1 33... Rxc3 34... Nc1 35... Rxc3 36... Nc1 37... Rxc3 38... Nc1 39... Rxc3 40... Nc1 41... Rxc3 42... Nc1 43... Rxc3 44... Nc1 45... Rxc3 46... Nc1 47... Rxc3 48... Nc1 49... Rxc3 50... Nc1 51... Rxc3 52... Nc1 53... Rxc3 54... Nc1 55... Rxc3 56... Nc1 57... Rxc3 58... Nc1 59... Rxc3 60... Nc1 61... Rxc3 62... Nc1 63... Rxc3 64... Nc1 65... Rxc3 66... Nc1 67... Rxc3 68... Nc1 69... Rxc3 70... Nc1 71... Rxc3 72... Nc1 73... Rxc3 74... Nc1 75... Rxc3 76... Nc1 77... Rxc3 78... Nc1 79... Rxc3 80... Nc1 81... Rxc3 82... Nc1 83... Rxc3 84... Nc1 85... Rxc3 86... Nc1 87... Rxc3 88... Nc1 89... Rxc3 90... Nc1 91... Rxc3 92... Nc1 93... 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TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Penny OsbornThe right
of every
woman

Jasper Rees

On Tuesday (Channel 4, 9pm) confronts a question that is more vexed than it ought to be — the issue of gay parenthood. A proposed amendment to the Human Fertility and Embryology Bill put forward by Conservative politicians would introduce legislation banning all but married women from fertility clinics, effectively preventing many lesbians from becoming mothers. At the moment clinics are open-house and donor insemination schemes ensure that when a pair of women want to start a family, they can. This report tells the story of numerous women who have prospered under the current law. Most of their experiences are gratifyingly normal, though the two mothers with the one-year-old triplets deserve a special mention. One partly deaf lesbian mother is teaching her child sign language in the hope that he will grow up "bilingual". And a gay father is teaching his child Gaelic as well as English. The only inattentive side to lesbian motherhood is the evidence that it has given birth to some nasty social-worker-speak: the neologistic verb "to parent" does not sound malign enough, just wait until its even uglier twin "co-parenting" catches on.



Michael Jackson: continues his scholarly tasting (Ch4, 8.30pm)

In *The Bear Hunter* (Channel 4, 8.30pm) the rotund, bearded Michael Jackson continues his scholarly tasting tour of the world's ales and lagers. This week takes him to Holland, where the best brews are made in the Trappist monasteries in the catholic south of the country. Monks adhere to their vow of silence except when discussing their own tipple: a Trappist saying goes, "In heaven there's no beer, so we drink it here". Jackson's critical vocabulary is as full-bodied as ever: nose down, in a beaker of froth, he remarks on a "very good head formation . . . very dense and well retained". Buy that man a drink.

Compass (ITV, 10.35pm) follows two Anglo-Saxons anglers up to the streams of Kewmir, into which the British once introduced 10,000 Scottish salmon. They are still there, but the quarry of this expedition is the vast mackerel fish which is found on the upper regions of the Ganges. The film's social commentary is made in passing and superficial, but the photography is spectacular and the fish are even more so.

The Officers' Class and the Ranked, part three of *Army Lives* (BBC2, 7.50pm), looks at one of the last class war zones, where the plummy vowels are still doing battle with the glottal stops. Though well observed, it makes depressing viewing.

6.00 *Contest*
6.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Nicholas Witchell and Jill Dando. Includes regular news headlines, sports summaries, business news, travel and weather information, regional news and a review of the morning newspapers by Paul Cullen. **6.55** Regional news and weather.

6.55 News and weather followed by *Children's BBC*, introduced by Simon Parkin and Andi Peters, beginning with *Defenders of the Earth*. Animated science fiction adventures (r) **6.55** *Why Don't You . . . ?* Adventure drama series incorporating entertaining ideas for bored youngsters (r) **6.55** *Puddingtime* (r) **6.55** *Why Don't You . . . ?* Adventure drama series incorporating entertaining ideas for bored youngsters (r) **6.55** *Puddingtime* (r)

10.00 News and weather followed by *The New Fred and Barney Show*. **10.30** *Playdays* presented by Dave Seaton Phillips and Elizabeth Watts (r) **10.55** *Flora and Uppity*. An Easter reading by Joan Marsh. **11.00** News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Callers' comments and questions are dealt with by Sammi Holmes and Jayne Irving. The special guest is Valentine Harris, presenter of *Italian Regional Cookery*.

12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Line*. Includes scenic television cook Keith Floyd remembering his first job. Presented by Andy Craig and Judi Spiers. **12.55** Regional news and weather. **1.00** *One O'Clock News* with Philip Highton. Weather.

1.30 *Neighbours* (Coastal). **1.50** *Matchpoint*. New general knowledge quiz, hosted by Angela Rippon, with a tennis-style league and score system. Two teams of doubles or mixed doubles are on court for volleys of questions. **2.15** *First of the Bambi*. *Bambi* (1947, b/w). Bob Hope stars as a baby photographer who, while minding the office for a private detective neighbour, becomes involved in murder. Dorothy Lamour plays the beautiful Carolina in this witty spoof of Marlowe's *Farwell My Lovely*. Directed by Elliot Nugent. (Coastal) **3.40** *Cartoon*. **3.50** *Cartoon*. **4.00** *Cartoon*. **4.10** *Cartoon*. **4.20** *Cartoon*. **4.30** *Cartoon*. **4.40** *Cartoon*. **4.50** *Cartoon*. **5.00** *Cartoon*. **5.10** *Cartoon*. **5.20** *Cartoon*. **5.30** *Cartoon*. **5.40** *Cartoon*. **5.50** *Cartoon*. **6.00** *Cartoon*. **6.10** *Cartoon*. **6.20** *Cartoon*. **6.30** *Cartoon*. **6.40** *Cartoon*. **6.50** *Cartoon*. **7.00** *Cartoon*. **7.10** *Cartoon*. **7.20** *Cartoon*. **7.30** *Cartoon*. **7.40** *Cartoon*. **7.50** *Cartoon*. **8.00** *Cartoon*. **8.10** *Cartoon*. **8.20** *Cartoon*. **8.30** *Cartoon*. **8.40** *Cartoon*. **8.50** *Cartoon*. **9.00** *Cartoon*. **9.10** *Cartoon*. **9.20** *Cartoon*. **9.30** *Cartoon*. **9.40** *Cartoon*. **9.50** *Cartoon*. **10.00** *Cartoon*. **10.10** *Cartoon*. **10.20** *Cartoon*. **10.30** *Cartoon*. **10.40** *Cartoon*. **10.50** *Cartoon*. **11.00** *Cartoon*. **11.10** *Cartoon*. **11.20** *Cartoon*. **11.30** *Cartoon*. **11.40** *Cartoon*. 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Tories predict Labour policy 'nightmare'

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

THE Conservatives yesterday sought to check Labour's rise in the polls by giving a warning of the "socialist nightmare" that would result from it gaining power.

Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, insisted that Opposition spokesmen were still demanding ever higher public spending. "Whatever John Smith may say, a Labour government would be under enormous pressure to spend, spend, spend. And a Labour Chancellor would have no alternative but to tax, tax, tax."

His attack will raise the temperature in the run-up to the local government elections on May 3, where the Tories face a humiliating setback.

Mr Patten advanced the spending ambitions of leading members of the Shadow Cabinet as evidence of the pressure that would be applied to a Labour Chancellor. "Bryan Gould attacks the Government for allegedly underfunding local authorities by £3 billion," he said.

Rioters hit by 'food poisoning'

By Ronald Faux

THREE more rioters at Strangeways Prison surrendered yesterday suffering from suspected food poisoning. One is believed to be in a serious condition.

Two were carried out on stretchers and taken to hospital by ambulance. Another walked out and gave himself up and was taken for medical checks.

Prison authorities said that the men had been living on rotten meat, water that was possibly contaminated, and tins of food that had been left open for several days.

A medical officer using a megaphone shouted a warning to the seven men continuing the siege, now entering its third week, that they faced serious danger from food poisoning if they did not surrender.

Throughout yesterday, prison officers played fire hoses on the building and kept up a constant racket by sounding klaxons and banging riot shields to deny the rioters rest.

Forty-six republican prisoners went on a rampage in Crumlin Road prison, Belfast, yesterday damaging a dining hall.

The Northern Ireland Office said that there were no casualties. It is understood that the trouble was swiftly suppressed by prison staff.

"Harriet Harman smiles sweetly and demands extra resources for the NHS. Michael Meacher calls the Government heartless for not spending even larger sums on social security. Jack Straw berates the Government for allegedly underfunding education. John Prescott calls for more money for railways," he said.

Mr Patten's onslaught came after the Department of the Environment categorically denied a newspaper report that computer executives are to meet officials this week to discuss the technical feasibility and cost of re-programming software to link poll tax bills to ability to pay.

Relating the community charge to income levels would represent a huge retreat by the Government after the effort expended to kill off a backbench Conservative move to introduce a banded system two years ago.

Senior Department of the Environment sources cannot categorically rule out ministerial consideration of such a move at some point. It is clear, however, that it is not part of the review of the poll tax now under way in Whitehall.

That is concentrating on the possibility of more generous rebates and transitional relief and changes in the system of allocating grant to local authorities.

In a letter to the chairman of his local party in Bath, Mr Patten pointed out that Labour councils spent on average 12 per cent more than their Tory counterparts even before the poll tax. He argued that the Opposition had not suddenly discovered the virtues of good housekeeping.

"The Labour Party has been, and is, and will continue to be the party of high spending and high taxation... To vote Labour in May as a mid-term protest vote would be the most expensive protest anyone could conceivably make."

"Anyone living in an area controlled by a Labour council with a Labour government in power would face the ultimate socialist double - rocketing local bills and soaring income tax. It would be enough to make people want to emigrate to somewhere sane and Conservative - like Hungary or East Germany."

The Conservatives today publish an 11-page document criticizing the Opposition's policies as a "false prospectus". It attacks Labour for failing to give details of its proposed replacement of the community charge and accuses it of refusing to cost its education, transport, housing, health and industrial policies.

Michael Hart, page 6



A COMPETITOR in one of the world's strangest events throwing a raw egg at Aldbourne village in Wiltshire yesterday. The curious competition was won by Peter Keen, aged 24, a hod-carrier from Hungerford, Berks, who broke the 112-year-old world

record by throwing his egg 285ft 10in without breaking it. In 1878 the Australian Test cricketer, R.F. "The Demon" Spofforth, threw a raw egg 150ft without breaking it, a record which stood until yesterday. After his triumph, Peter Keen said: "I came here as a

beginner and am leaving in the world record books. I'm delighted with my Bank Holiday." The green was in perfect condition after overnight rain had moistened it enough to make landing soft. The throwers are allowed half-a-dozen hen's eggs each, which must not be

more than two days old. The Egg Committee gave Admiral Anthony Davis, aged 80, the job of line judge. He stalked around in the pit helmet he wore on colonial service in India. "There's not a lot of arguing with the Admiral around," a committee member said.

Mandela makes veiled attack on Thatcher

Continued from page 1

South Africa free and at peace. "We are determined to ensure that our country is transformed from being the skunk of the world into an exemplary oasis of untrivial and excellent race relations, democracy for all, a just peace and freedom from poverty and human degradation."

He made further reference to the British Government when he called for the struggle to continue in order to transform South Africa into a non-racial democracy. "That prospect will only become reality as a result of the struggle, including the struggle represented by the international sanctions campaign."

"All of us must therefore refuse to be demobilized, even if those who seek to demobilize us plead that they are doing so out of a new-found concern for the oppressed and out of the goodness of their hearts."

He said the campaign to release political prisoners in South Africa had been heard over the years "even through

the thickness of the prison walls."

"During all the days we spent buried in apartheid dungeons we never lost our confidence in the certainty of our release and victory over the apartheid system."

The concert celebrating his release, and return to Britain for the first time since 1962, should, he added, also be a day of redirection "to the continuation and intensification of the struggle for the emancipation of all remaining political prisoners."

He also said that it was an honour to have prizes, streets and parks in Britain named after him.

Earlier, to cries of "Nelson Mandela is free", Africa's most famous son arrived at the stadium well wrapped against the cold Easter weather. The colourful crowd, some attracted by conscience, others by spectacle and some merely by the line-up of pop stars, gave him a warm and noisy welcome.

The British Government did not have a representative

among the VIP guests. Mr Mandela and his wife, Winnie, sat in the royal box for the 4½ hour show of sets by a variety of artists including Neil Young, Tracy Chapman, Terence Trent Darrow, Patti LaBelle, Lou Reed, Anita Baker and Neneh Cherry.

Among the guests were Mr Kinnock and his wife, Glenys, the Rev Jesse Jackson, the US politician, Sir David Steel, former Liberal leader, and Labour MPs Mr Keith Vaz, Mr Paul Boateng, and Mr Bernie Grant.

While most of the crowd fixed its attention on the stage, an ever-changing throng gathered beneath the royal box to stare at the greying man, aged 71, whose fate had prompted the concert.

Security surrounding Mr Mandela was tight, with some police on horseback.

Inside the stadium the atmosphere was relaxed, with the euphoria of previously politically motivated charity concerts less in evidence, probably partly due to the cold weather.

Weather blows hot and cold for holidaymakers

By Nicholas Watt

ON THE last day of the Easter break a hailstorm drove hopeful swimmers from the seaside in Cornwall while hundreds of children joined a big Easter egg hunt at the sun drenched Leeds Castle in Kent.

Competitors in a 125-mile canoe race from Wiltshire to London had to be treated for hypothermia as temperatures dropped below freezing overnight and by yesterday evening some had still not finished.

With snow on high ground in Scotland and thunderstorms in the North-east, the London Weather Centre said the unsettled weather will continue into the week.

The AA said some drivers started to head home early yesterday, with a nine-mile tailback off the Severn Bridge. However, most of the last hours of their holidays to rush back and many did not leave until about 7.30pm.

Another nine-mile tailback formed on the northbound carriageway of the M5 near

Taunton. There was a 12-vehicle pile-up on the north-bound section of the M1 in Hertfordshire and five vehicles were involved in an accident on the M25 near Heathrow.

In a thunderstorm two people were injured in two accidents on the eastbound carriageway of the M4 between Newbury and Reading in Berkshire. A six-mile tailback formed as the motorway was blocked for 40 minutes.

Traffic jams formed around Easter events and theme parks. The North Circular in London was congested with people heading for the Nelson Mandela concert at Wembley.

Windsor ground to a halt and a tailback formed on the M4 from junction six to junction nine as motorists tried to cram into the town. Windsor Safari Park said its gates at 3pm as the number of visitors exceeded last year's record of 17,000 people.

A man drowned after his dinghy overturned near Knutsford, Cheshire, yesterday as his wife and three

children watched from the side of the lake.

A spokeswoman for Heathrow Airport said 110,000 passengers passed through without problems.

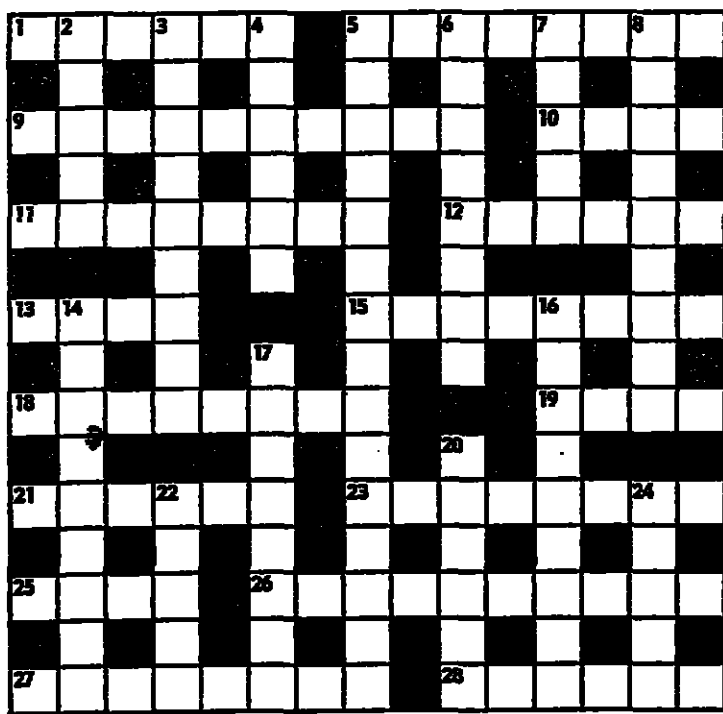
A boy aged two was fighting for his life in intensive care at Eastbourne District Hospital yesterday after he was crushed by a digger he had been riding in with his father.

The youngster was thrown from the machine after it suddenly overturned and his crumpled body was rescued by an ambulance crew.

Handfuls of teenagers drove into the quiet seaside resort of Bognor Regis in the early hours of yesterday morning before moving off in a large convoy for an acid house party at a warehouse outside the town.

A police spokesman said: "There were between 400 and 500 people partying and we just monitored the situation. There were no complaints from the public and the party broke up peacefully at about 5.30am."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,270



- ACROSS**
- Specific embargo relating to old capital (6).
 - Dog Latin as a mongrel form (8).
 - Introduction of West End pantomime production (10).
 - Pin-up in the lido, perhaps (4).
 - "Less than thy love prove likewise" (R and J) (8).
 - Unlikely position of crew pressing hard (6).
 - Support with a smile (4).
 - Nominate Nye as a Saint (8).
 - Defender unable to take more goes to rear (8).
 - Uniform given by the first Lady Newton (4).
 - Present newspaper boss is talented (6).
 - Suitable reading for three-year-olds (8).
 - Evidence right on line say (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,269

CONVALESCENCE
HITINAGONS
APPETISER
NOYERFACE
EQUOUCANDI
LOGICAL
SWANAGE
BULLDOG
ALSOFER
TAPIR
NWRASELD
DRONE
RESURFACE
SROTEALERS
THREONDALERS

- Change one's opinion - transparent ruler has an advantage (5,5).
- Drawing attention to criticism (8).
- Kidnapped daughter named (6).
- She sounds tight, the laughing church? (9).
- To do with the cleaning of the church? (9).
- Adjacent like the German in the Derby (6).
- Full of beans like an active footballer (5,3,7).
- Punishment that comes to a stop (8).
- Object of a night out (5).
- Command to turn dial through 180 degrees (5,4).
- Learning to introduce about vanished Order (9).
- Supervision done with sense (9).
- Outlaws company - it's going up and down (8).
- Box heavyweight for prize in Belmont (6).
- Put on ice extract of quinine drink (5).
- Striking sound of Concorde (5).

Concise crossword, page 18

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

PILCROW

- The paragraph mark
- To pillage
- A halfhead

MCKENNEY

- A beguine proletarian
- A midwife
- A Shetland dog-cart

ONIMANCY

- Measurability
- Finger-nail divination
- The sin of Oases

DAKS

- To gild fish
- Something wonderful
- A sheepskin

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
C. London (within N & S Circs.) 731
M-ways/roads M4-M1 732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. 733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23 734
M-ways/roads M23-M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745
AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

WEATHER

The whole country will have sunny spells and squally showers. The best of the sunshine is likely to be in the east and the south during the morning, with heavy showers developing with a risk of hail, sleet and thunder. Western and northern areas will have frequent showers from the beginning of the day. It will be a chilly and windy day. Outlook: showery and cloudy at times with longer periods of heavy rain.

ABROAD

MONDAY: (t=thunder, d=drizzle, f=fog, s=sun, st=sleet, sn=snow, l=fair, c=cloud, r=rain)

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	17	63	Majorca	16	61
Albania	18	64	Malaga	20	68
Alexandria	20	68	Madrid	18	64
Athens	20	68	Melbourne	15	59
Bahia	19	66	Mexico City	20	68
Bahram	27	81	Moscow	20	68
Batavia	28	82	Munich	15	59
Bombay	28	82	Nairobi	15	59
Buenos Aires	18	64	Paris	15	59
Calcutta	28	82	Prague	15	59
Cairo	28	82	Reykjavik	15	59
Cebu	28	82	Rome	15	59
Colon	18	64	Sao Paulo	20	68
Dacca	18	64	Seoul	15	59
Dakar	18	64	Stockholm	15	59
Dhaka	18	64	Sydney	15	59
Dubai	18	64	Taipei	15	59
Durham	18	64	Tokyo	15	59
Edinburgh	18	64	Ulaanbaatar	15	59
Geneva	18	64	Warsaw	15	59
Hankow	18	64	Wellington	15	59
Hong Kong	18	64	Yokohama	15	59
London	18	64			
Lyons	18	64			
Manila	18	64			
Medan	18	64			
Perth	18	64			
Rangoon	18	64			
Shanghai	18	64			
Singapore	18	64			
Sourabaya	18	64			
Tientsin	18	64			
Yokohama	18	64			

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Rain	Min	Max
Scarbrough	10.5	11	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11
London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
Birmingham	9.2	10	11	11
Nottingham	9.2	10	11	11
Leeds	9.2	10	11	11
Sheffield	9.2	10	11	11
Blackpool	9.2	10	11	11
Liverpool	9.2	10	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11
London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
Birmingham	9.2	10	11	11
Nottingham	9.2	10	11	11
Leeds	9.2	10	11	11
Sheffield	9.2	10	11	11
Blackpool	9.2	10	11	11
Liverpool	9.2	10	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11
London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
Birmingham	9.2	10	11	11
Nottingham	9.2	10	11	11
Leeds	9.2	10	11	11
Sheffield	9.2	10	11	11
Blackpool	9.2	10	11	11
Liverpool	9.2	10	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11
London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
Birmingham	9.2	10	11	11
Nottingham	9.2	10	11	11
Leeds	9.2	10	11	11
Sheffield	9.2	10	11	11
Blackpool	9.2	10	11	11
Liverpool	9.2	10	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11
London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
Birmingham	9.2	10	11	11
Nottingham	9.2	10	11	11
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Sheffield	9.2	10	11	11
Blackpool	9.2	10	11	11
Liverpool	9.2	10	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11
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Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
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London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
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London	7.2	10	11	11
Southampton	9.2	10	11	11
Exeter	7.2	10	11	11
Birmingham	9.2	10	11	11
Nottingham	9.2	10	11	11
Leeds	9.2	10	11	11
Sheffield	9.2	10	11	11
Blackpool	9.2	10	11	11
Liverpool	9.2	10	11	11
Manchester	9.2	10	11	11
Cardiff	9.2	10	11	11

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● LAW 26, 27
● SPORT 29-36

BUSINESS

SECTION 2

TUESDAY APRIL 17 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewster
CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar

1.5425 (+0.0040)

W German mark

2.7487 (-0.0288)

Exchange index

87.0 (-0.5)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1741.0 (+0.8)

FT-SE 100

2222.1 (+1.0)

USM (Datastream)

140.82 (-0.47)

IBM keys in \$1.04bn for quarter

INTERNATIONAL Business Machines surprised Wall Street analysts with a sharply improved first quarter profit of \$1.04 billion.

The profit, up 9.2 per cent on the first quarter of 1989, came with an 11.4 per cent increase in sales from \$12.7 billion to \$14.2 billion.

The result, which converted to earnings of \$1.81 a share, compared with \$1.61 a share. Wall Street responded with an early rise in the Dow Jones industrial average, of 29.51 points to 2,781.31, in spite of a fall of 750.74 points in Tokyo.

Loans 'an act of faith'

Lending by Western commercial banks to Eastern European countries at present would be "a profound act of faith," the Institute of International Finance says in *Building Free Market Economies in Central and Eastern Europe: Challenges and Realities*, issued in Washington.

Mr Horst Schmiedt, managing director of the Institute, said: "There has to be basic structural changes to the economic forces here." The region, however, had enormous economic potential.

Warning on GMU

Munich GERMAN monetary union (GMU) with an exchange rate of one-to-one would be a risk of higher prices and wages, warned Herr Helmut Schlesinger, deputy president of the Bundesbank.

In a Munich newspaper, he said a parity exchange rate would boost monetary growth, which could lead to a wage spiral. "The Bundesbank would then have to pursue a strictly restrictive monetary policy." (Reuters)

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 2778.80 (+25.00)
Tokyo
Nikkei Average 28463.18 (-750.74)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15%
3-month eligible bills 14%
US Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 9%
3-month Treasury bills 7.72-7.71%
30-year bonds 9.99-10%

CURRENCIES

London
£: \$1.5425
DM: 2.7487
Sfr: 2.4867
FF: 6.5536
Yen: 160.36
Lira: 1.3652
ECU: 1.3473
New York
£: \$1.5425
DM: 2.7487
Sfr: 2.4867
FF: 6.5536
Yen: 160.36
Lira: 1.3652
ECU: 1.3473

GOLD

London Fixing
AM \$375.250 pm \$375.50
Close \$375.00-375.50 (2228.25-228.75)
New York
Comex \$374.60-375.10

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jun) \$16.70
Denotes Thursday's close
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank
Australia S	2.25
Canada S	2.10
Denmark S	16.46
France S	6.55
Germany S	1.36
Italy S	1.36
Japan S	1.36
Netherlands S	2.25
Portugal S	2.00
Spain S	1.66
Sweden S	4.66
Switzerland S	2.25
UK S	1.54
US S	1.54
Yugoslavia S	2.25

Stocks mount up as sales slow, says CBI

By Graham Seargeant, Financial Editor

THE unexpected New Year blip in high street sales came to an abrupt end in March, leaving retailers and wholesalers with a whole reporting poor sales on balance for the first month since November. As a result, they were left with rising stocks of unsold goods, the Confederation of British Industry's monthly distributive trades survey shows.

The apparent end to the recovery, which came after high interest rates slowed sales growth progressively through last summer and autumn, will be a relief to the Chancellor and to the financial markets

ahead of tomorrow's government figures for retail sales in March.

There remains a sharp distinction between sales of small and basic items, such as groceries, chemist goods, confectionery and newspapers, which reported the best sales increases in March, and sales of discretionary items, which came under further pressure. Booksellers and stationers joined household textiles, furniture and carpets in reporting lower sales than a year ago; they expect lower sales in April.

The motor trade again showed lower sales and orders in March than a year ago.

Mr Nigel Whittaker, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades panel, said the

moderation of annual sales growth showed that stronger growth over Christmas and the New Year was proving short-lived and the expected slowdown in stocks had failed to materialize.

"This suggests that any recovery in high street trade since the end of last year may be starting to run out of steam," he added.

The Government's figures for February showed an unexpected 2.4 per cent jump in the volume of retail sales — one of the conflicting signs that caused the Chancellor to take a cautious compromise view of the trend of domestic demand in the Budget.

The upsurge conflicted with the poor financial results coming from a series of

retail groups dealing in discretionary purchases, in contrast to the buoyant sales and profits of the leading supermarket groups.

City analysts, while varying in their forecasts, expect the March figure, due tomorrow, to show a fall of up to 1 per cent.

In detail, a balance of 9 per cent of retailers and wholesalers reported higher sales in March. This compares with an average balance of 18 per cent reporting higher sales over the previous three months and 17 per cent expecting higher March sales a month ago.

Wholesalers appear to have been worst hit by the unexpected build-up of stocks. A

balance of 12 per cent reported poor sales for the time of year, far worse than anything experienced over the past 12 months, and a balance of only 6 per cent reported higher sales than in the same month last year, the second worst figure since June 1984.

A month ago, both retailers and wholesalers expected unsold stocks to fall in March, but in both cases stocks rose.

Despite the setback, a balance of 18 per cent more retailers and wholesalers expect April sales to be higher than a year ago. Retailers are particularly optimistic, with more expecting sales to rise than in any month over the past year.

US poised to lift bank restrictions

From John Durie, New York

THE US Treasury is considering a major overhaul of American banking regulations to allow outside corporations to own banks and dismantle the barriers within the financial services sector.

The changes being considered include an end to the Glass-Steagall Act, which prevents banks underwriting securities issues, and an end to restrictions on banks owning branches across state borders.

Most restrictions on US banks date to the Great Depression days when it was felt desirable to split banking functions with those traditionally ascribed to the securities industry to protect a bank if its stockholding arm collapsed.

The United States is under growing international pressure to open its financial markets to American separation of functions in its post-war reconstruction legislation. The system contrasts strongly with the universal banks of Germany, which also developed in Britain as a result of the Stock Exchange reforms of 1986.

On a recent trip to the United States, Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community competition commissioner, urged an overhaul of the US banking laws saying: "While we have no trouble getting into the US market, once there we find doors closing around us."

The Securities Industry

Association dropped its long-standing objection to the repeal of Glass-Steagall last year. The Association, which previously feared its members would be swamped if banks were allowed into the industry, now sees the benefit of increased capital banking for brokerage operations.

This was underlined by the recent financial troubles faced by Shearson Lehman Hutton and Kidder Peabody where their parents, American Express and General Electric respectively, injected more than \$2 billion to restore the investment banks' balance sheets.

But the primary motivating force for the expected Treasury moves is the financial services being encountered by the savings and loans industry, which could cost US taxpayers \$300 billion.

The Treasury's current proposals suggest an abolition of the savings and loans industry and a merger of regulatory authorities but confirmed an imminent overhaul of the banking laws.

Last year, the US government imposed tighter rules on savings and loans institutions, including higher capital adequacy rules and an increase on the premium paid by the institutions to cover the federally-backed insurance programme.

Ending restrictions on non-bank corporations owning banks would allow companies such as Ford Motor Co and the retailer Sears Roebuck, already strong in the personal

loans sector, to have fully fledged banking subsidiaries. US banks like Citicorp can own stockbrokers in international markets yet are restricted at home. Only one US bank, Citibank, ranks in the top ten of world banks.

Some states have opened their doors to interstate banks on a reciprocal basis. But under the Treasury proposals interstate banking restrictions will be lifted completely.

The Federal Reserve has gradually allowed the US banking sector to enter the securities industry and spread its branch network from its home states, but the legislation is still on the books.

Its repeal would be welcomed throughout the financial and services sector, as investment banks would welcome additional capital from the banking sector, and banks would welcome new operations as partly to blame for the falling international competitiveness of the sector.

The development of new financial instruments, including securitization of debt, has also blurred the distinction between pure banking and investment banking and issuing and trading in securities.

Proposals are being circulated for new taxes to help pay the cost of the savings and loans bailout. But the Treasury yesterday played down this possibility. President Bush campaigned on a no-tax increase ticket but many in Washington see some tax rises as inevitable.

Eminent persons focus on Gatt



Legacy warning: Graf Lambsdorff, chairman, and the group which yesterday told of 'chaos and impoverishment'

A GROUP of 13 statesmen — the Eminent Persons Group on World Trade — yesterday warned world leaders that a failure to reach a substantive agreement in the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) would leave a legacy of "chaos and impoverishment."

The new group, led by Graf Lambsdorff, a former West German economics minister, issued a communiqué urging all GATT participants "to make substantial compromises in areas of the highest political sensitivity," particularly agriculture, textiles, services and intellectual property, before the round ends in December.

Drawn together by Mr William Brock, a former US Trade representative, Señor Enrique Iglesias, the former

foreign minister of Uruguay and now president of Inter-American Development Bank, and Mr Michael Moore, New Zealand's minister of foreign affairs and trade, the group will try to refocus attention on the Uruguay Round.

The inaugural meeting of the Eminent Persons Group, which also includes Lord Young of Gramham, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, coincides with the start of an informal trade ministers' meeting in Mexico tomorrow.

The four-year round of trade liberalization talks that began in Punta del Este, Uruguay, is designed to reshape GATT to meet the new needs of an increasingly international trading and economic system.

Nearly one-third of the

\$3,000 billion in annual world trade is not covered by GATT rules, much of it in the fast-growing field of services, such as banking, as well as agriculture.

The group wants to have a draft report prepared for its next meeting on June 8, in Washington, and have it completed by July to coincide with a hoped-for early outline agreement of the round and an economic summit of leaders of the Group of Seven in Houston.

In the communiqué, compromises were demanded of Japan in agriculture, of the US in textiles, steel and sugar, and of developing countries, which must accept multilateral discipline in new areas such as services and intellectual property. Moreover, the

US was urged to abandon its "purely unilateral pursuit of its trade interests."

Lord Trefgarne, the British Trade Minister attending the meeting in Mexico, said he was "optimistic" that progress will be made on freer multilateral trade under the Uruguay Round.

But he is concerned the talks are stagnating in certain areas and views this week's meeting as a chance to inject fresh impetus into talks.

Before leaving for Mexico, Lord Trefgarne identified trade in agricultural products and textiles, and enhancement of the procedures for settling disputes between GATT members, as the top priorities for the months ahead.

Economic View, page 23

B&C to brief SE on computer arm

By Our City Staff

BRITISH & Commonwealth, the financial services group, is expected to make a statement to the Stock Exchange today on the financial health of its computer leasing subsidiary, Atlantic Computers.

As reported in *The Times* yesterday, the Bank of England has confirmed that Atlantic is experiencing financial problems but emphasized that B&C's money broking and banking businesses are sound.

B&C's chief executive, Mr John Gunn, has not commented on the reports.

Shares in B&C, which ended last week at 53p, are expected to come under pressure this morning as the market assesses the impact Atlantic's difficulties may have on the group's 1989



Gunn: no comment results, due for release on April 26.

Pre-tax profits in 1988 were 6 per cent lower at £122.8 million and market analysts have predicted that 1989 profits might fall to £67 million.

B&C shares reached a high of 56p before the 1987 crash.

Brierley details Rolls demerger

By Our City Staff

SIR Ron Brierley's IEP Securities will today send a circular to shareholders in Vickers, the tanks and Rolls-Royce car group, detailing proposals for a demerger to be put to a vote at the annual meeting on April 26.

IEP, with 18.6 per cent of Vickers, will seek backing for five resolutions. The first is to demerge Rolls-Royce. The others pertain to changing Vickers' articles of association to enable the company to use some of its £130 million surplus cash to buy up to 10 per cent of Vickers shares and cancel £8.5 million in preference shares. The document will give an explanation of why Vickers trades at a discount to the market and will attack management for failing

to reflect true quality of earnings in the share price.

Sir Ron calculates that if Rolls-Royce was listed separately its value would be at least 12 times earnings or 110p a share, implying a market capitalization of almost £300 million. The rest of the company would be worth about 145p a share, and after the issue of new Rolls-Royce shares on a one-for-one basis, Vickers shareholders would have an investment worth 255p a share compared with the current 223p.

Vickers has issued a defence document and put on a roadshow to convince shareholders to vote against IEP. Its broker says it has found no support for IEP among its leading shareholders.

Former World Bank chief in about-turn on Latin America

Defaulting a way out of the debt crisis

By A Special Correspondent

LATIN American debtor nations could find a way forward through default, according to a new study of the growing debt crisis.

The radical solution is all the more controversial in that it has been proposed by Mr David Knox, a former vice-president of the World Bank where he was responsible for Latin America and the Caribbean, and supporter of the Baker Plan which called for basic policy reforms in debtor countries and a substantial inflow of new capital to help finance this and allow debt service to continue.

Now, in a striking about-turn in theory, Mr Knox says that in order to implement tough domestic measures and allow them time to work, Latin American debtors need a cut in foreign debt service of about \$18 billion a year for the next 10 years, representing a reduction in debt service to all creditors private and official, of between 50 and 60

per cent. That scale of debt relief, he adds, is unlikely to be forthcoming through voluntary methods of debt reduction. "The only alternative, therefore, is for debtor nations to take unilateral action and default."

Mr Knox admits that creditor nations and organizations will find his view "unpalatable" but warns — the time has come to face the fact that the international debt programme, if it is to be solved at all, will be solved only by the unilateral action of the debtors.

He believes the extent of the debt crisis has not yet been recognized, either inside or outside Latin America. "It is more than a nasty hangover after a borrowing spree. It is also a result of a generation or more of policy mismanagement. Too many creditors still do not realize that that sort of problem cannot be settled through a short, sharp haul. The long haul will take 10 years or more.

"Too many debtors cling to the belief

that reforms are the price of humoring the IMF and fail to grasp that they are part of a coherent strategy, which includes debt relief, for getting themselves out of a very deep hole."

Mr Knox also examines the Brady Plan, introduced a year ago as successor to the Baker Plan. He finds that while it marks the acceptance of the industrial countries that some official intervention is necessary to encourage voluntary methods of debt reduction, it does not go far enough.

"We cling to the belief that, by dangling a small carrot — the Brady Plan — in front of commercial banks, we can persuade them to grant all the debt relief that is needed. That is most unlikely. First, the banks are not the only creditors. Second, the carrot is too small."

Latin American Debt: Facing Facts by David Knox. Published by Oxford International Institute, price £20.

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TT 16

BAT close to clinching deals for stores in US

From John Durie, New York

BAT Industries, the British conglomerate, is expected to complete its retail sales in the United States shortly.

Its Chicago-based Marshall Field store chain is expected to be sold this week for about \$800 million.

Top bidders include a management buyout group, May Department Stores, Dillard Department Stores and Dayton Hudson Corp. Marshall Field has 24 stores throughout the US which last year had a profit of \$88 million on sales of \$1.09 billion.

The jewel in the BAT retail

empire, Saks Fifth Avenue, is expected to go for \$1.1 billion with a combined management and Japanese Tobu Department Store Co bid expected to win the option.

Other bidders include the General Cinema Group, Joseph Brooks and Dillard. A deadline of next Monday has been set for the Saks sale.

In 1989, the chain had a trading profit of \$110 million on sales of \$1.2 billion.

Its book value at the end of last year, according to an information booklet circulated among potential bidders,

was \$633 million. Another BAT retail chain, J.B. Ivey, is also expected to be sold shortly with Dillard again one of the leading contenders along with the chain's management.

Ivey last year had operating income of \$2.8 million on sales of \$310.6 million.

The retail sales, which will give BAT well in excess of \$2 billion, are part of a restructuring carried out in response to Sir James Goldsmith's hostile bid for the company last year.

Sir James's takeover hopes received a setback last week

when the California Insurance Department blocked the planned sale of BAT's insurance company, Farmers Group, to Axa-Midi Assurances, the French financial services company.

The insurance department said neither Hoylake, Sir James's bidding vehicle, nor Axi-Midi were suitable owners for California's second largest insurance group.

After the decision, Hoylake said it still plans to proceed with the bid and to continue to negotiate with the US authorities.

Leisure bid under the spotlight

ANDREW BOURNE



Michael Ward, chairman and chief executive of European Leisure, is aiming to make institutional shareholders and analysts see the light as far as the merits of his all-paper offer for Midsummer Leisure are concerned. Mr Ward, above, at the firm's Hippodrome night spot in the West End, was canvassing in London last week and this week takes his roadshow to Scotland

Woolfenden completes £20m Wimpy buyout

MR MAX Woolfenden and his team have completed the £20 million management buyout of the Wimpy hamburger restaurant chain from Grand Metropolitan.

The deal has been funded by a syndicate led by the venture capital group 3i.

The chain consists of 216 table-service restaurants in the UK, nearly all of which are franchised, and 140 Wimpy restaurants in continental

Europe. The group had sales of about £50 million last year. Mr Woolfenden, who has been with the business since 1980, has plans to double the size of the UK chain in the next five years.

There will be no significant changes to the restaurants in the near future, although facilities will be improved.

GrandMet is transforming its 160 Wimpy counter service outlets into Burger Kings.

Milken sits tight amid threat of new charges

US LEGAL authorities are due this week to deliver what they have promised will be a knockout punch against Mr Michael Milken, the junk bond financier.

Mr Milken has been indicted on 98 charges ranging from fraud to insider trading, and the district attorney for southern Manhattan has threatened new charges, in an attempt to strike a deal with him. Mr Milken has rejected

the offer, saying he will defend his innocence in court. Last month the district attorney said new charges would be ready this week.

The \$200 billion junk bond market created by Mr Milken in the early 1980s helped fund a record number of takeovers. He also helped his old firm, Drexel Burnham Lambert, to the top of the US stockbroking industry, but the firm filed for bankruptcy this year.

Profits warning pressure for Blacks

SHARES in Blacks Leisure, the camping goods and sportswear retailer, are expected to come under pressure today following a warning over full-year profits — issued after the market closed for Easter — and formal notification that accountants are examining "accounting inaccuracies" in its Miss Sam subsidiary.

Blacks shares ended at 60p on Thursday compared with 35p one month ago. Pre-tax profits for the last full year, to end-February 1989, were £3.1 million but fell 35 per cent to £1.3 million for the half year to end-August.

Miss Sam, a former US-listed supplier of women's fashion, was bought for £45 million in July 1987 after new management embarked on a strategy of growth by acquisition.

Blacks was rescued by Mr Bernard Garbacz, now chairman, who led a consortium which injected £1 million to the retailer. His son-in-law, Mr Simon Bentley, took over the role of chief executive just over a year ago. The founder of Miss Sam, Mr Stephen Morris, is the company's managing director.

Gold mines varied

GOLD mine companies in the Rand Mines group showed mixed results in the first quarter of 1990.

East Rand Proprietary Mines made a loss after tax of R20.2 million (£4.48 million) up from a loss of R6.99 million in the last quarter of 1989. The company has borrowings of R297 million and says additional sources of funding will be needed to allow the mine to continue as a going concern.

Durban Roodepoort Deep made a post-tax profit of R2.5 million (£1.02 million). Harmony Gold Mining made a post-tax profit of R17.2 million (£2.1 million) and Rhynovooruit Gold Mining made a post-tax profit of R11.4 million (£2.12 million).

Japanese mergers up

THE number of mergers and acquisitions involving Japanese companies jumped by a third to 740 in the year to end-March.

A study by Yamaichi Securities shows that three cases out of five involved Japanese companies buying companies abroad, mostly in the US. The number of overseas firms buying Japanese firms was unchanged at 14.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Age-old problems face friends of free trade

The exciting events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union have caused consternation in some other areas of the world. Latin American countries are worried that the flow of investment which has sustained their rickety economies will be diverted to the rebuilding of Eastern Europe. Closer to home, the friends of free trade are concerned that the political will to liberalize trade is being channelled instead into Eastern Europe and the development of the single market of the European Community.

Tomorrow an informal meeting of trade ministers begins in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, to try to sort out some of the issues which are dogging the Uruguay Round of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). The 27 ministers will start with the question of reinforcing the GATT rules and go on to discuss access to markets and the new areas of investment, intellectual property and services.

One cannot be too hopeful of a sudden new injection of urgency into the discussions. Producer interests show no sign of weakening and the necessary collective political will seems to be fragmenting. Because of this a few free trade enthusiasts have taken a contingency plan out of the bottom drawer and set up a new lobbying organization called the Eminent Persons Group on World Trade. This had its first meeting in London yesterday and has produced a communiqué restating the virtues of trade liberalization.

Irrespective of how successful the group is in its proposed high-level lobbying, there is a virtue in having a new conduit for trade liberalization. But the difficulties the new group and other friends of free trade face are much as they have always been. As Macaulay said: "Free trade, one of the greatest blessings which a government can confer on a people, is almost in every country unpopular." Producers threatened by imports take care to focus their displeasure on politicians; consumers who benefit from competition do not always even realize where their best interests lie.

While the adjustments required of producers, where a relatively small number of people might lose their jobs, can be large individually, the costs to consumers in total can be huge. A report by the National Consumer Council found that the annual cost to the consumer of EC anti-dumping restrictions on consumer electronic imports was almost £1.7 billion across the Community as a whole, and about £270 million in Britain alone.

Agricultural protectionism is costlier still. A study by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development published last week concludes that farm subsidies and import barriers cost the main industrialized countries a total of \$72 billion a year in lost income. Elimination of all farm supports in the

17 countries under review would boost real incomes in OECD households by 0.9 per cent.

Put another way, each agricultural job saved by farm support costs the equivalent of \$13,000 in lost household income in Japan, \$20,000 in the EC and the US and almost \$100,000 in Canada. Border measures prevalent in the EC are even more expensive in economic terms than domestic supports because they distort consumer choices as well as production decisions. The result of these policies, says the OECD, is "to reduce economic efficiency and consequently aggregate real incomes, to destabilize world markets, to exacerbate tensions between OECD countries, and to threaten progress towards further multilateral trade liberalization under the Uruguay Round."

Despite the existence of these heavy taxes, which producers levy on consumers, governments in general show little appetite for championing the cause of the consumer. Trade issues are seen almost exclusively in terms of "jobs lost" rather than wealth gained. They are also seen as largely bilateral. The US, in particular, has been obsessed by its trade relations with Japan, which until last week's economic reform pact threatened to undermine the multilateral talks in the GATT.

Yet in an open trading system trade deficits are significant only where a country has an overall deficit, not a bilateral one. One country can have a deficit with another which is balanced by reverse trade positions with various other countries. Free trade between two countries, though desirable, is a much less efficient wealth generator than free trade between all countries. That is why it is important to conduct trade discussions on a multilateral basis, gradually pushing back the frontiers of protectionism worldwide.

The GATT is far from perfect. Indeed, as Francis Maude pointed out in a pamphlet for the Centre for Policy Studies, *Economic Disarmament: Prosperity, Interdependence and Stability*, the idea of negotiating away barriers when it is so clearly in the interests of any country to abandon protectionism, whether or not others follow suit, is not one which would appeal to classical theorists. Robert Peel referred dismissively to "haggling with foreign countries about reciprocal concessions" — which is exactly what GATT is all about.

However, in the real world — of Nippon phobia and US Congressmen seeking re-election, of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement and marginal constituencies in Lancashire — the GATT is as good as we will get. The challenge for the Eminent Persons Group is to drive home the enormous cost of protectionism and show politicians how they can win votes by dismantling it.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Touche gains audits of UK offshoots

By Alistair Fairley

SIX US corporations are moving the audits of their British subsidiaries to Touche Ross — and away from Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte — as a result of the recent round of mega-mergers between international accounting firms. Mr John Roques, Touche's new managing partner, said:

The six — General Motors, Dow Chemical, Merrill Lynch, Kimberly-Clark, Arm-

co and the Crane Group — all have substantial British operations, and bring to Touche audit fees in Britain alone running into several million pounds.

Mr Roques, who has just taken up his post, said the companies had switched their accounts as a result of his firm's merger worldwide with Deloitte Haskins & Sells to form DRT International, the world's third largest accounting group with global fees of

more than \$3.5 billion. Deloitte's British firm decided, six months ago, to break from its international parent and merge, instead, with the British firm of Coopers & Lybrand.

Mr John Bulloch, Deloitte's former managing partner, said in January that the firm was set to lose almost £1 million in 1989 audit fee income as a result of the decision, but the figure now appears to be larger. Most US companies have

December year-ends and would have been reluctant to change just before the end of the annual audit process, when the mergers were first announced. It is normal practice in the US, however, for companies to have a single firm of auditors worldwide for all their subsidiaries.

A spokesman for Coopers Deloitte said the loss of the subsidiaries' accounts had been built into the two firms' business plans.

Newman's Own joins the turtle

PAUL Newman is about to follow green turtles and a special chicken sandwich in helping Grand Metropolitan's Burger King, the fast food chain, with 5,400 outlets, to contribute to group profits this year. From next month, Newman's very special own-label salad dressing mixes will be available exclusively to Burger King. The campaign is designed to pull in more hungry females, many of them the mothers of the 1 million children who have just joined the Burger King Kids Club and lured by 7 million videos featuring the phenomenally successful new film stars: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. The fact that the Turtle film (record box office take of \$50 million in two weeks) has been attacked by the American equivalent of Mrs Mary Whitehouse as the most violent film this year, with 194 beastly acts, has not slowed trade. The Newman campaign is viewed as rather less controversial, although the superstar recently saw off a legal challenge alleging the recipes for his six dressings, which started with Newman's Own, were not quite all his own work. Burger King is confident his smiling face on the label will pull in the health-conscious. The health single worked with the broiled (not fried) white chicken sandwich, rocketing sales to a million a day. At current rates Burger King, says it sells enough food in 5½ weeks to feed the entire US.

LOS ANGELES DIARY

Geffen calls the tune

WEALTHY record producer David Geffen, who upset music industry executives last month by terminating his Warner Brothers contract and selling out to MCA rather than Thoma-EMI, is ruffling the well-pressed feathers of Beverly Hills estate agents. The 47-year-old, once voted the savviest in the music business, is trying to buy the nine-acre Beverly Hills estate

of the late movie chief Jack L. Warner in a private deal for \$47.5 million. The agents, whose usual fee is 6 per cent, protest that Geffen is attempting a deal at almost half the market price. Selling to the highest bidder for between \$75 million and \$80 million would net them about \$4.8 million. Mr Geffen received just over \$500 million for his record company.

Pay disease

CAR workers are as concerned about the pay of bosses as Mrs Thatcher. The Auto Workers Union, facing job losses, has described executive pay as "a disease in need of a cure" after the release of top pay rates. Salary and share options of Lee Iacocca, head of Chrysler, America's third-largest car-maker, rose 8 per cent to \$4 million last year, while the company's profits sank 65 per cent. But the retiring chiefs at two of his rivals took pay cuts. General Motors' Roger Smith received 32 per cent less at \$2.5 million (profits down 13 per cent) and Ford's Donald Petersen dropped 37 per cent to \$6.6 million as profits fell 28 per cent. But, even together, the three car bosses failed to match the \$14.2 million paid to Paul Fireman, chairman, president and chief

executive of running-shoe maker Reebok International.

Taxi-ing-times

CABBIES who dress like slob, swear at customers, or tamper with the meters, face fines of hundreds of dollars from next month. The "Get Neat or Use Your Feet" message is the LA City Council's response to thousands of customer complaints of discourtesy, overcharging and refusal to accept short journeys. Repeated fashion gaffes — tank-tops, track suits, cut-off jeans or white socks — could cost \$1,500 in fines. Rudeness to customers, meter-tampering and other violations could cost the driver \$500 and his company \$100,000 for each offence. Veteran cabbie Morris Cooper says when he started in 1939 only one dress style was allowed: dark suit, white shirt and black tie.

Smoke signals

ANTI-SMOKING, an American industry growing faster than car phones, has had a boost from California politicians. They are preparing to spend \$28 million in anti-tobacco advertisements over the next 18 months. Smokers will pay for the messages through a 35 cent state tax on each pack. California will become the first to promote television spots with slogans depicting tobacco executives saying: "Gentlemen, we are not in this for your health" and others declaring: "Smoking kills more blacks than whites." Two months ago smoking was banned on internal American flights of less than six hours, and the anti-smoking industry of clinics, acupuncture, hypnosis, chewing gum and other products is expected to grow at an average annual 17 per cent over the next five years, to \$577 million in 1995. A tobacco industry spokesman said: "The first American smoking ban was in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam 350 years ago in 1637. It doesn't seem to have much affect."

CAST-off clothes of mega-stars are selling faster than ever. A selection of current bargains includes Priscilla Presley's Kenzo cape at \$190, the white leather jacket worn by Michael Jackson on his Pepsi commercial at \$2,000, and shoes owned by rock singer David Lee Roth retailing for \$4,000. Most of the money goes to the celebrities' favourite charity.

Philip Robinson

Who had the world's fastest industrial growth rate in the eighties?

When you consider that Ontario covers an area the size of France and Spain combined, it is perhaps less surprising to learn that between 1984 and 1988 the world's fastest industrial growth actually took place here.

That fact becomes totally un-surprising when you examine the reasons behind that phenomenal achievement.

To begin with a well developed, dynamic industrial infrastructure and excellent communications by road, rail and air with a North American market of 275 million people provides an excellent basis for expansion.

Corporate taxation in Ontario means simply that it is very profitable to do business here and government policy establishes companies quickly and efficiently.

Toronto's sophisticated financial community helps attract increasing levels of overseas investment (of 14.2 billion dollars, 9 billion comes from British companies).

And an enthusiastic, well-educated

workforce (one fifth of whom speak a second language) and first class technological expertise ensure productivity and quality control second to none.

But having explained the industrial growth rate, we suspect the real reason that companies like Glaxo, Hillsdown Holdings, Cadbury-Schweppes are here is that the quality of life, in both the cities and magnificent Ontario wilderness, is just as spectacular.

If you want to make it big, make it in Ontario.

Please send me a brochure telling me how to make it in Ontario.
Name _____ Position _____
Company _____
Address _____

Complete and send to: Business Development Branch, Government of Ontario, 21 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LY. Tel: (01) 245 1222. Alternatively, fax your business card to (01) 259 6661.



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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Rolls-Royce (at)	Motors/Aircraft	
2	Haywood Williams	Banking/Roads	
3	Rex Brio	Banking/Discount	
4	Shetland	Industrials S-Z	
5	Chatter Coats	Industrials A-D	
6	P & P	Electricals	
7	Cable Comm	Telecom	
8	Smith & Nephew	Industrials S-Z	
9	Wolfeboro Rink	Chemicals/Plas	
10	HTV Group	Telecom	
11	Holmes Protection	Industrials E-K	
12	AB Elect	Electricals	
13	Jacks (Wm)	Motors/Aircraft	
14	Memor	Electricals	
15	UK Land	Property	
16	Portals	Industrials L-R	
17	Low Group	Paper/Print/Adv	
18	James & Shipman	Industrials E-K	
19	Whitbread 'A' (at)	Breweries	
20	Exp Comp Louisiana	Oil/Gas	
21	Bibby (J)	Industrials A-D	
22	Wesley	Industrials S-Z	
23	Haynes Publishing	Newspapers/Pub	
24	Lithel	Industrials L-R	
25	Be Alway (at)	Transport	
26	Solo Pacific 'A'	Industrials S-Z	
27	Davis Estate	Property	
28	Metal Clusters	Industrials L-R	
29	Cry Elect	Electricals	
30	Dalrymple (at)	Foodst	
31	Silvestra	Industrials S-Z	
32	Tate & Lyle (at)	Foodst	
33	Bedworth	Building/Roads	
34	Petron	Oil/Gas	
35	Warner	Property	
36	Fitch Lovell	Foodst	
37	Alexandra Wear	Industrials A-D	
38	Tic Rack	Draperies/Stores	
39	Avon Rubber	Industrials A-D	
40	Aster	Electricals	
41	Clarke Nickolls	Property	
42	Forminter	Draperies/Stores	
43	Community Hospital	Industrials A-D	
44	Nat West (at)	Banking/Discount	
45	Times Newspaper Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

There were no valid claims for the £4,000 weekly prize on Friday. The money will be added to this Saturday's weekly competition.

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Stock	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

UNDATED

Stock	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDEX-LINKED

Stock	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 9. Dealings end April 27. Settlement day May 8.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Thursday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (at) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

BREWERIES

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

BUILDING, ROADS

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

FINANCE, LAND

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

FOODS

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

HOTELS, CATERERS

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

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Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

PROPERTY

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

SHOES, LEATHER

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

TEXTILES

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

TOBACCO

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

TRANSPORT

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

WATER

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

WATER

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

WATER

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

WATER

Company	Share	Price	Change	%	Gain or Loss

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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Portfolio

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION City to £35,000

This young, energetic firm, committed to providing clients with the highest quality of legal service have seen a considerable amount of growth of work within the firm's Litigation Department.

The ideal candidate will be keen to handle a general commercial litigation caseload which will include, inter alia:

- Disputes under commercial contracts.
- Product liability.
- Partnership, shareholder and joint venture disputes.
- Employment problems.
- Landlord and tenant.
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- Professional negligence.
- Debt recovery.

The prospects within this department are excellent as it is a young growing department with a high volume caseload. Ref: T17490A

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The "Due Diligence" Department of the company group of a major international practice requires lawyers at the 2 to 3 year level with experience in company/commercial work, in particular a knowledge of commercial contracts and exposure to mergers and acquisitions will be an advantage.

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Firms are now interviewing for the Autumn, so make sure you are prepared with a structured interview programme which will help to ensure that you see a wide variety of firms before making a decision about your future.

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We have prepared information that will help you consider some of the options open to you on qualification.

Please indicate the information which would be of interest so that we can forward it to you.

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- ☐ Guide to Which Specialism with Which Firm?
- ☐ Guide to Moving from the Provinces
- ☐ Interview Techniques

Name: _____

First: _____

Home Tel. No.: _____

Office Tel. No.: _____

(If different from office)

Address: _____

Date/Stage of Qual: _____ Age: _____



PUTTING THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT JOBS

THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK

is the Bank established by the Treaty of Rome to provide long-term financing for investment projects in the European Community. It also provides funds for projects in developing countries which have made cooperation agreements with it.

The bank is presently seeking for its headquarters in Luxembourg a



Lawyer (m/f)

In a challenging international and professional environment, the lawyer of English mother tongue will be responsible for drafting and negotiating finance contracts and security documents. He or she will advise the operational departments of the Bank on the legal structures for proposed financings, will give opinions on legal problems that arise in the course of the administration of loans and may also be called on to advise the Finance or General Administration directorates on a variety of legal questions.

Qualifications: candidates will be members of a legal professional body in a country of the Common Law tradition. They will have between two and five years' post-qualification experience in banking law or commercial and financial law and will be fluent in French. Knowledge of other EC languages will be an asset, as will knowledge of civil law and EC law. The selected candidate will have proven drafting skills and an ability to work as a member of a team as well as to work under pressure. He or she should be able to demonstrate qualities of energy, imagination, patience and diplomacy.

The European Investment Bank offers good conditions of employment and a competitive remuneration package partially based on performance.

Interested candidates, possessing the nationality of an EC member state, are invited to send a detailed curriculum vitae as well as a passport size photograph to:

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European professional association, organised under public law with about 5,000 members in 14 countries, seeks for its office in Munich a lawyer as

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His/her tasks will comprise, besides direct responsibility for the management of the office, providing legal assistance to the committees and Council, as well as the preparation and organization of meetings within and outside Germany.

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Niche City practice, with substantial and expanding banking department, currently seeks additional lawyers nq - 5 yrs+ to handle international work. The firm is flexible and can provide a mixed bag of commercial work/asset finance if desired. You must enjoy client contact and occasional foreign travel.

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NQ - 3 yrs
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COMMERCIAL ROLE C£27,000 + CAR
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CORPORATE LAWYER TO £50,000
A top quality lawyer is sought by this multi-national group based in central London. Applicants will need a minimum of 2 years corporate experience, ideally gained with a City practice.

THE LAW

Questions on a choice issue

The House of Lords was recently persuaded by a narrow majority to amend the Lord Chancellor's proposed legal reform requiring — until the House of Commons reverses it — solicitor-advocates to be bound by the Bar's "cab rank" rule.

It is reported that the National Consumer Council has described this as "a major blow to the Government's reforms" and that a spokesman for the Law Society has said the amendment "did substantial damage to the Government's main aim of giving solicitors wider rights of choice and a client a right to choose a solicitor as an advocate".

There can be two views about this. The Bar's so-called "cab rank" rule likens the barrister to a cab driver on a rank who is obliged to accept anyone wishing to be carried. As a theoretical principle, it has considerable merit. If effective, it ensures that citizens have the advocate of their choice; and, since, in theory, no barrister can refuse a case, it dissociates the advocate from the guilt or obloquy which can flow from acting for particular clients.

More than 20 years ago, when I

A 'cab rank' rule for solicitors has

limitations. But it enshrines important precepts of law, Sir David Napley writes



was on the Council of the Law Society, I endeavoured, unsuccessfully, to persuade the council to make a rule applying the euphemistic "cab rank" principle to all solicitors engaged in litigation.

The Master of the Rolls, supporting the proposal to apply the "cab rank" rule to solicitor-advocates, rightly asserted, by implication, that the "cab rank" is an honourable and just principle to which to subscribe.

Whatever the theory underlying that principle, in practice it falls far short of the hyperbole with which the Bar always presents it. It is certainly not the acme of virtue they suggest.

Daily barristers may, and constantly do, refuse cases, giving as their reason that they are otherwise engaged, or that on the day when the case is likely to be heard there is real risk that they will be otherwise engaged; that the case involves a type of work of which

they have insufficient experience to do justice; that the case is one for which the fees which they normally charge, and are entitled to charge, are either inappropriate or unavailable; that having acted in some allied matter, there are

'The real mischief is presenting this as ... a panacea for achieving justice'

ethical reasons against accepting instructions; that it is a legal aid matter and they do not undertake legal aid work and numerous other readily available and justifiable explanations *ad infinitum*.

the reason advanced for refusal is invariably the correct one, as frequently it may be.

The mischief which arises from the "cab rank" rule is not the existence of the myriad exceptions which can render it nugatory. Of necessity, those exceptions are sensible and have to prevail. The real mischief is presenting it as if it is so universal in its application that it is a panacea for achieving justice.

Another principle which the rules require to be enforced is that, under the existing system, a barrister cannot, in general, accept instructions from a lay client without the intervention of a solicitor.

As I argued before the Law Society, and as Lord Donaldson has now highlighted, what value remains in the "cab rank" principle, with its supposed obligation on the Bar to accept every case subject to being instructed by a solicitor, if the solicitor is unavailable or unwilling to instruct counsel?

The only result of subjecting solicitors, whether advocates only or litigators in general, to the "cab rank" principle is that while they would be subject to the same high-sounding and praiseworthy principle as obtains at the Bar, they could equally and honourably avail themselves of the range of

exceptions which protect the Bar. When did any member of the public last see a string of fashionable Queen's Counsel doing trivial cases in the magistrates' courts, or even in the Crown or County Courts? It would be odd if they had to. When did the disciplinary committee of the Bar last discipline someone for having refused to take on a case? When did any solicitor find that the counsel, whom his client might particularly require, had put aside everything to satisfy his "cab rank" duty to accept the brief in that particular case?

Far from constituting "a major blow", of decreasing "the rights of citizens to have the advocate of their choice", the proposed change would make not the slightest difference, as the Bar has effectively demonstrated over the years. At the same time, added weight would be given to the estimable but largely illusory principle.

If the Council of the Law Society is wise, it will do so long ago, and immediately introduce a rule applying the "cab rank" principle to all solicitors while engaged in litigation.

● The author, senior partner of Kingsley Napley and Co, is a former president of the Law Society.



Sir David Napley: "cab rank" principle is honourable and just

Law Report April 17 1990 Court of Appeal

Arab Monetary Fund has no juridical capacity in English courts

Arab Monetary Fund v Hashim and Others
Before Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Bingham
[Judgment April 9]

The Arab Monetary Fund, an international organization created by agreement between foreign sovereign states and given independent juridical personality as a *persona fidei* within the territory of a signatory state, would not be recognized as a juridical entity with capacity to bring proceedings in the English courts.

The Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Bingham dissenting, so stated allowing an appeal by eight defendants from Mr Justice Hoffmann who had refused their application to strike out an action begun against them by the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) to recover assets allegedly misappropriated by the first defendant, when director-general of the AMF, and seeking damages and other relief against him, members of his family, certain banks and other financial institutions.

Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Mr S. Clive Freedman for the bank defendants; Mr Gordon Pollock, QC and Mr Charles Flint for the AMF; Mr Hugo Page for the family defendants.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that what was in issue was whether the law of the United Kingdom permitted the courts to recognize the AMF's existence to the extent necessary to enable it to enforce such rights as it might have against, *inter alios*, the first defendant who was resident here.

If it did not, the law was in need of urgent revision, for the AMF was not unique.

Before the judge, Mr Pollock had submitted, *inter alios*, that

the AMF had been constituted under a system of domestic law, namely that of its headquarters state, Abu Dhabi, and therefore that it should be recognized as an ordinary foreign juridical entity. The judge had accepted that submission.

Articles of agreement of AMF. The agreement, signed on behalf of 21 Arab states, contained almost everything which would be expected to appear in the memorandum and articles formally creating a juridical person.

Article 2 provided that the AMF "shall have an independent juridical personality and shall have in particular the right to own, contract and litigate". Article 54 required the signatories to ratify the agreement in accordance with their constitutional procedures.

No article specified a national law applying to the AMF or its constitution. Clearly the agreement was a treaty or contract

between sovereign states and the AMF was an international organization, or more appropriately, a supra-national organization.

Abu Dhabi was one of the seven emirates forming the United Arab Emirates (UAE) under whose provisional constitution the federal authorities had exclusive legislative and executive authority in respect of foreign affairs.

Treaties made by the UAE became binding on it and within it after: (1) confirmation of the treaty by its council of ministers; (2) ratification by decree of its supreme council; (3) signature and promulgation of the decree by its president and (4) publication in its official gazette. All such steps had been taken in relation to the AMF agreement.

The effect was that on publication the provisions of the articles became binding within the UAE, obliging the author-

ities, including the judiciary, to observe and give effect to those provisions.

The unchallenged evidence was that by that means the AMF had conferred on it independent legal personality and the capacity to sue and be sued in UAE law.

English law. The decision of the House of Lords in *J. H. Rayner (Mincing Lane) Ltd v Department of Trade and Industry* (1989) 3 WLR 969 (the *Tin Council* case) confirmed that the English courts had no competence to adjudicate on or to enforce rights arising out of transactions entered into by independent sovereign states among themselves on the plane of international law (see p1001H). It also confirmed that treaties were not self-executing. They did not therefore create rights and obligations (see p1002E).

Hence the need for the International Organizations Act

1968, enabling her Majesty by Order in Council to confer on an organization the legal capacities of a body corporate if it was an organization of which the UK government was a member, or if it maintained or proposed to maintain an establishment in the UK and, in the former case, was a body which it should enjoy certain privileges and immunities. The AMF was not such an organization.

Although the House of Lords in the *Tin Council* case was concerned with different questions, the discussion of the nature of an international organization on which the legal capacities of a body corporate had been conferred came some light on how English law should regard an international organization on which an Abu Dhabi or UAE decree had conferred similar capacities.

His Lordship referred to the leading speeches of Lord Templeman and Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, setting out the nature and characteristics of persons who had all the capacities of a legal entity, but who were not a natural person, but equally it was not a UK or a foreign juridical person.

It was a person sui generis who had all the capacities of a legal entity, but who was not a natural person, but equally it was not a UK or a foreign juridical person. It was a person sui generis who had all the capacities of a legal entity, but who was not a natural person, but equally it was not a UK or a foreign juridical person.

Once it was touched by the magic wand of the Order in Council, it became a person sui generis, but one quite unlike other persons. Self-evidently it was not a natural person, but equally it was not a UK or a foreign juridical person.

It was a person sui generis who had all the capacities of a legal entity, but who was not a natural person, but equally it was not a UK or a foreign juridical person. It was a person sui generis who had all the capacities of a legal entity, but who was not a natural person, but equally it was not a UK or a foreign juridical person.

His Lordship referred to *Dikey & Morris, The Conflict of Laws* (11th edition (1987) volume 1, Rule 171 of which provided that the existence or dissolution of a foreign corporation duly created or dissolved under the law of a foreign country was recognized in England, and Rule 174 which provided:

"(1) The capacity of a corporation to enter into any legal transaction is governed both by the constitution of the corporation and by the law of the country which governs the transaction in question. (2) All matters concerning the constitution of a corporation are governed by the law of the place of incorporation."

In his Lordship's view it was wholly consistent with Lord Oliver's approach to have regard to the AMF-agreement, not as creating rights and obligations enforceable by the English courts, but as creating rights and obligations enforceable by the English courts.

Conclusion. The basic fallacy of his judgment was that the judge thought the *Tin Council* case required him to ignore the treaty, namely the contrary proposition appeared at p1602F, per Lord Oliver. What the courts could not do was to have regard to a treaty as a source of rights and obligations.

In his Lordship's view it was wholly consistent with Lord Oliver's approach to have regard to the AMF-agreement, not as creating rights and obligations enforceable by the English courts, but as creating rights and obligations enforceable by the English courts.

Before Mr Justice Kennedy [Judgment April 3] The Commonable Rights Compensation Act 1982 was not part of the statutory code found in the *Inclosure Acts* 1845 to 1859 and thus it was not necessary to look at section 16 of the *Inclosure Act* 1845 to define "persons interested" in land.

Mr Justice Kennedy so held in the Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment in judicial review proceedings in granting declarations to the applicants, Hinchin Town Football and Social Club Ltd and its directors, that a meeting held by the respondents, trustees of the Hinchin Town Football and Social Club Ltd, was not a valid meeting for the purpose of electing new trustees in that a number of "persons interested" were excluded.

MR JUSTICE KENNEDY said that there was a dispute over the future of about nine acres of land in the centre of Hinchin which was occupied by the club and which was on land leased from the trustees.

That, in his Lordship's view, did not appear to deal in any way with a *persona fidei* created to give life and being to an international or supra-national organization.

In Abu Dhabi and the UAE such a *persona fidei* was created and recognized. It was the signatory states which created the AMF, and Abu Dhabi, the UAE and the signatory states each within its own territory which gave the AMF an independent juridical personality.

In other words each, like the UK under the 1968 Act, created a special *persona fidei* for the express purpose of enabling the organization to own property, to contract and to litigate within its own territory.

Judgment of Mr Justice Hoffmann. The judge had considered that the consequences of the *Tin Council* case were that he ignored the treaty and regard the AMF as constituted under Abu Dhabi law as a separate *persona fidei*, entitled as such to recognition as a domestic entity under ordinary conflict rules.

He had referred to Mr Sumption's argument that legislation conferring personality under the law of a member state should be regarded as purely territorial in scope, its purpose solely being to give effect to the treaty obligations entered into by the member states.

Further, questions of territoriality should not simply be dismissed. They had to be addressed and confronted. If they were, it became apparent that something was amiss.

The solution was that the legislation conferring personality under the law of a member state should, as matter of English private international law, be regarded as purely territorial in scope.

His Lordship with the greatest possible reluctance would therefore allow the appeal and strike out the action.

Lord Justice Nourse delivered a judgment concurring with the Master of the Rolls.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM, dissenting, said that, as a juridical person, the AMF did not depend on status derived from a non-justiciable treaty, but on a status conferred by a friendly foreign sovereign.

Community would seem to require that the UK recognize the AMF by virtue of the UAE decree as the UK would do likewise with the UAE to recognize the International Tin Council by virtue of the Order in Council.

Given the importance of the City of London as a financial and commercial centre, his Lordship would regret it if he were to hold that the AMF as a juridical person could not sue and be sued in respect of transactions into which it had entered as such.

Solicitors: Allen & Overy, Freshfields, Pennone, Blackburn, Manchester.

Seeking a definition of persons interested in land

Regina v Brooker and Others, Ex parte Hinchin Town Football and Social Club Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice Kennedy [Judgment April 3]

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MR JUSTICE KENNEDY said that there was a dispute over the future of about nine acres of land in the centre of Hinchin which was occupied by the club and which was on land leased from the trustees.

In 1896, the Land Commissioners had approved a resolution in relation to the land at Hinchin that whenever a trustee died or became unable to act the remaining trustees should convene a meeting of the persons interested in the land for the appointment of a new trustee.

In 1989 the trustees wanted to appoint two new trustees. The sixth and seventh respondents were approached to be trustees and agreed to act. On January 12, 1989 notice was given of a meeting to be held on February 14 for the appointment of trustees.

On February 14, before the time at which the meeting was due to be held, the club assigned part of its demised premises to some of the directors, and another part of the demised premises to other directors, leaving itself with the remainder. The party assigned were then excluded from the meeting.

Thus, it was contended by the applicants, each of the directors became a person interested in the nine acres of land, and so entitled to attend and take part in the proposed meeting. When the directors arrived at the meeting they were refused entry.

The trustees submitted that although the 1896 Act did not define "persons interested in the land" that Act had no relevance with the *Inclosure Act* 1845 to 1859.

His Lordship said that the meeting was not valid for the purpose of appointing new trustees.

Solicitors: Charles Smith & Co., Hinchin, Cheshire.

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THE LAW

Saving the family business

Fault must remain part of divorce law for the sake of marriage, Paul Rippon writes

The Lord Chancellor recently warned that removing fault-based grounds completely from divorce should not be allowed to encourage an increase in the number of marriage breakdowns. But this will do little to halt the problem. What is required is a change in social attitudes.

The Finer Committee, reporting in 1974, attributed the increase in divorce in part to its greater social acceptability. Divorce "carries no stigma, only sympathy. It is a misfortune which befalls both", Lord Denning said.

Nevertheless, it must surely be wrong to break up the children's home and family for the pursuit of one's own ends, however justified one may feel. Unless people perceive it to be "wrong", no amount of tinkering with court procedure will reduce the divorce rate.

The Lord Chancellor was right to draw attention to the needs of children. Divorce involved 148,911 children in the UK in 1987 alone.

The orthodox view among sociologists — that a bad marriage is worse for children than a divorce — needs challenging. It is striking how resilient children are to the tensions that exist in any normal marriage. Only in the most exceptional cases can it be said that the children are better for the parting of their

parents. In 1977, the last pretence of any judicial inquiry into the causes of increasing marriage breakdown was removed through a mere change in court rules. Now the Law Commission proposes to reduce divorce to an administrative process in which wrongness and responsibility are completely extinguished.

The lower the threshold, the more people will see divorce as a natural, almost inevitable process.

Who is to uphold the moral principle of the permanence of marriage, which remains its cardinal characteristic whether it is celebrated in church or register office? The Church of England still regards divorce as an exceptional situation. The removal of blame and, thereby, responsibility is rooted in a 1966 Church report, "Putting Asunder".

The report recommended that the only ground for divorce should be the irretrievable breakdown of a marriage. This recommendation was taken up by the Law Commission in the same year and led to the proposed reform of the law in 1969. Parliament refused to accept the proposal and insisted on the present provisions that the court should not find irretrievable breakdown unless one of five factors was also established. Three of the five



Better or worse? In 1987 divorce involved 148,911 UK children

factors are fault-based. Furthermore, when making financial provisions, the court was required to take into account the conduct (or, rather, misconduct) of the parties. (Arguably, this provision was strengthened in the last reforms in 1984.) Initially under Lord Denning, and with notable exceptions since, the courts have been reluctant to consider any allegation of wrongdoing except in the most exceptional of cases.

The consequence is that misconduct plays only a nominal part in

our divorce law. A spouse who defends a petition in law and in principle or who asserts that the misconduct of his or her opponent should be weighed in considering financial claims gets short shrift.

Parliament has never fully accepted the removal of fault from divorce law. The recent difficulties faced by the Church of England in obtaining parliamentary approval of the Clergy (Ordination) Measure shows that a strong body of opinion still refuses to accept that divorce is not wrong, but natural.

Prevention is better than cure, and energies wasted in fruitless tinkering with divorce procedure would be better applied to strengthening marriage and attacking the causes of its decay, not least the devaluation of the role of motherhood within it.

The Church could do more in pastoral care of young marriages and in its synodical debates to underline the spiritual values upon which marriage is based as well as countering the materialism which drives husbands and wives into unendurable financial commitments.

Most divorcing spouses go on to contract further marriages which, statistics show, are even more vulnerable to decay. If they were required to recognize their role in what had gone wrong, at least their chances of success would improve next time.

If, as the Lord Chancellor seeks, spouses are to be made aware of "their personal responsibility for family disputes", then Parliament should refuse any reform of the law which would render divorce an automatic and administrative procedure.

Parliament, the church and the law should engender a general realization that the breakup of any marriage, and especially one in which there are children, is wrong and unacceptable.

● The author is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England and a barrister practising in family law.

INNS AND OUTS

In April a partner's mind turns to filling in the annual tax return. But anyone tempted to put it aside, or, perhaps, leave off a few "extras" should beware. In New York, for example, the tax authorities undertook an enforcement programme aimed specifically at the activities of lawyers over the past year. As a result, 14 New York state lawyers have been charged with failing to file personal income tax returns.

All 14 were partners. One, Joseph Chervin, resigned ahead of the announcement. He had been the head of Roseman & Collin's bankruptcy department. He is facing two misdemeanour counts for failing to file returns in 1986 and 1987, during which he is said to have earned \$879,000 (about £517,000). Another, Andrew Fisher, of Fisher & Fisher, had been president of the Brooklyn Bar Association from 1985 to 1989. He is charged with failing to file returns in 1986 and 1987 on a total income of \$247,000. Conviction would carry a maximum of one year in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Four of the lawyers are alleged to have failed to file returns for three years in a row. If convicted of the more serious felony charge, they face a maximum of four years in jail and a \$50,000 fine. The tax authorities claim that though fewer than 0.5 per cent of associates and law firm employees failed to file returns, almost 3 per cent of New York partners did not file returns.

This month the senior partners of three City firms step down: Freshfields's Hugh Peppitt, Cameron Markby's Russell Denoon Duncan and Clifford Chance's Sir Max Williams. Sir Max will continue as non-executive director of numerous companies, including 3i and Royal Insurance, and his position as a lay member of the stock exchange — until, he says, these appointments interfere too much with his golf and fishing.

While his every need will be serviced by Clifford Chance's facility for retired partners, which includes word-processing facilities, he will not act as a consultant to the firm. Allen & Overy's partner, Philip Wood, though indicating no desire to retire, has accepted an appointment as visiting professor at the faculty of law at Queen Mary and Westfield College. This is an honorary post, which entails giving the occasional lecture as part of a programme to attempt greater communication between academics and practising lawyers.

Nicholas Graham & Jones, a 20-partner London firm, has formed a three-way international strategic alliance with the 200-partner American firm Foley & Lardner, and the 22-lawyer Paris advocates De Ricci Selnet & Associates. The association brings together a diverse international mix. Foley & Lardner has 11 offices throughout the United States, but claims to have a particularly strong client base in the Mid-West — of clients all looking towards Europe.

De Ricci Selnet & Associates wants to expand other French commercial centres, building on its Singapore office — which is run in association with a Stuttgart firm — as well as an association in Taiwan. The alliance shows that there is a growing place in the international market for the ambitious smaller firm.

The third annual City Sports Night will take place on June 27 at Battersea Park Athletics Stadium. This year, the organizers hope to raise more than £75,000 for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Help the Hospices and the cancer charity BACUP. The evening will include relay races, softball and tennis competitions followed by live music, a disco and a barbecue supper.

The City law firms, particularly Freshfields and Clifford Chance, are fondly remembered by the organizers for their corporate contribution last year. Freshfields, which entered a softball team, won the trophy for the highest amount of corporate sponsorship. Tickets at £30 each, and information for those who would like to compete, are available from Nina Arora, NSPCC, 16 Hatton Garden, London EC1 (01-405 3344).

John Randall examines Law Society proposals to improve the training and practical skills of solicitors

Proposals for changes to the training of solicitors, designed to achieve a greater flexibility in the provision of vocational training and more emphasis on practical skills, were published by the Law Society's training committee two months ago. Next month, the society's council will consider the response of the profession to these proposals.

At the heart of the proposals is a change in the way students are assessed. The centrally set Law Society final examination would be replaced by examinations and other assessments set by the institutions that teach the vocational course — the College of Law and certain polytechnics.

By moving away from a single date on which all candidates must be presented for examination, there is greater flexibility to offer more than one course each year, to offer part-time courses, or to provide the

Flexibility made perfect

course in close conjunction with a law degree.

Alternatives to an annual full-time residential course will be needed to meet the challenge of demographic change, and the financial circumstances of loan-ridden students. By delegating examination of students to teaching institutions, a wider assessment becomes possible. Not only can knowledge and understanding be assessed through conventional examination, the practical skills needed to apply that knowledge can also be tested.

Reservations about delegation of assessment have been expressed by some who are concerned that there could be a loss of quality, consistency and professional control. This demands a proper response.

As a measure of quality, the final examination is incomplete, inadequate, and tells us little more than what we already know about the students. It is incomplete because it cannot assess the practical skills and personal qualities needed to apply legal knowledge. It is inadequate because it tells us nothing of the quality of teaching that shapes tomorrow's solicitors. And its resemblance to the examinations that led to the award of a degree means that it remeasures that which has already been tested.

Quality is a function of both the teachers and the taught. Initial student quality should be assured by possession of a degree. But what of the quality of the process by which the student learns to be a solicitor?

The Law Society must constantly monitor and assess that process. It starts with the determination of what is to be taught (the syllabus); it continues with how it is to be taught (teaching methods appropriate to the acquisition of both knowledge and skill) and it ends with evaluating the success of the teaching (assessment and examinations).

A concern with the quality of entrance to the profession must deal with all stages of the learning process. To concentrate on assessment alone cannot guarantee quality if what went before is deficient.

The Law Society, through a process of periodic authorization of

courses, must address the process as a whole. It is the quality of the process through which solicitors qualify, as well as the achievement of the individual student, that will ensure high standards of entry to the profession.

The most important part of such a system must be a major involvement by the profession. In this way professional control of standards can be maintained. Before authorizing a course, the Law Society would satisfy itself as to the qualifications and experience of the teaching staff, the teaching and examination methods and the adequacy of facilities.

This detailed assessment of the adequacy of the course would be periodic. The Law Society would also appoint members of the examination board.

● The author is director of the Professional Standards and Development Directorate, The Law Society.

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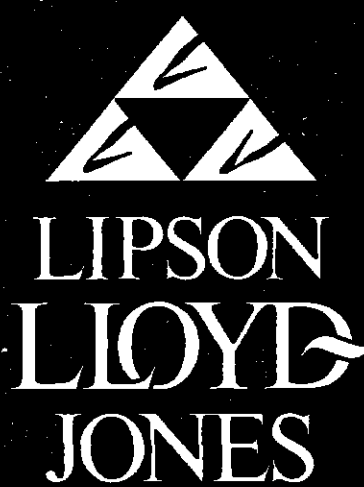
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HORIZONS

A taste for the food life

Health for all by the year 2000 is the slogan and aim of the World Health Organization. A bold objective. Two of WHO's 38 targets - the control of environmental hazards and the reduction of health risk from food contamination - will be discussed by the Association of Public Analysts at its annual meeting in Glasgow this week.

Throughout the year public analysts help to ensure that the food we eat, the goods we use and the environment in which we live are monitored and prevented as far as possible from harming us.

John Fulstow, who heads the Hampshire Scientific Service, says: "We are not just analysing food for salmonella, listeria and harmful additives, or testing the meat content in a sausage."

The Hampshire service provides a wide range of scientific advisory, consultancy and analytical services to all departments of Hampshire County Council, neighbouring Dorset and the Isle of Wight, 30 city and district authorities, industry, commerce and the public.

Public analysts analyse food and drink, fertilizers and feeding stuffs, pesticides, soil samples, drinking water, recreational water and building materials. Some carry out analyses for the police or the coroner.

Looking at what we eat and use is the job of an analyst.
Joan Venner samples the range and style of their work

Among the consumer goods they examine are cosmetics, cooking utensils, furniture, clothing and toys. Are they safe in use, soundly constructed, not highly flammable and virtually free of toxic metals? Could a doll's hair be pulled out and choke a baby?

Recently some children's toys known as dancing palm trees were imported and found to reveal a spike when the flower was removed.

Microbiologists test milk and dairy products, inspect the water in cooling towers and hot-water systems to ensure that legionella is not present, and conduct environmental surveys, including assessment on beach pollution.

Other staff are involved with occupational safety and hygiene, ensuring that employers provide a safe, healthy workplace. Asbestos-based materials can be of particular concern. After the February gales, which left asbestos sheeting flapping in school roofs, samples of dust from the floor were taken for analysis. Not every public analyst's laboratory undertakes exactly the same range of tasks. Many, including Hampshire, are in-

involved in environmental pollution monitoring. Hampshire has particular expertise in site surveys.

"In looking at sites for future development," says Mr Fulstow, "one has perhaps to consider a waste tip which may have been used for several decades. If there has been a lot of domestic rubbish, it tends to produce methane gas for a long time, so we must be quite sure there are no vapours likely to come up through the foundations of any building."

Scientific staff in the Hampshire Service include graduates in chemistry, microbiology, food science/technology and environmental science, plus technicians with qualifications varying from HNC down to a minimum of GCSEs in maths and a science.

Five of the 17 graduates hold the Royal Society of Chemistry's MChemA, qualifying them as public analysts. They are supported by the latest technology and equipment, such as atomic absorption and plasma emission spectrometers for identification of metals.

Some laboratories in the public analyst service are backed by local authorities, others operate as consultancies and hold appointments with local authorities.

Paul Berryman, 30, has experience of both types of organization. His first post was as a technician working in the laboratory of a public analyst in the private sector.

Today he has an impressive range of qualifications, including an HND in food technology, a degree in chemistry, a Master's degree in instrumental chemistry and the MChemA.

Now he is assistant county scientific officer and head of the statutory division of the Hampshire Scientific Service, with responsibilities for food enforcement, agricultural enforcement, port health and consumer safety. He is public analyst to Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight, and agricultural analyst to Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The work is varied. "This morning I had to calculate the effect of a cold cure on a driver's breath-alcohol reading. The cure turned out to contain 19 per cent alcohol."

Another day might begin with a phone call from the

Port Health Authority or trading standards officers, asking for scientific advice on an unsatisfactory consignment of food or toys. They might suspect lead contamination in the paint on a toy or high levels of pesticides on a cargo of pears.

Sometimes scientists are called on by the private sector to advise on food technology. "For instance, a manufacturer of meat products may want help drawing up a specification for a meat pie," Mr Berryman says. "We do a lot of this type of consultancy. In Hampshire, we are very business-orientated."

"As a result, we optimize our resources by doing work for other local authorities, health authorities and a wide range of people in the private sector."

One of his most unusual assignments was when he was public analyst for Warwickshire. Channel 4 had sent a reporter to check whether the Iraqis were using chemical weapons against the Kurds. The reporter brought back a load of soil and used cartridges.

In the laboratory, tests were made that proved the presence of mustard gas residues. These findings were reported on ITN's News at Ten.

Further information from the honorary secretary, Association of Public Analysts, care of Perry Ferguson and Dakin, 28 Marshalsea Road, London SE1 1HS.



Working to guard public health: analyst Paul Berryman of Hampshire County Council

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College House, College Road
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Interviews will probably be held about the end of April. Closing date for completed applications is Monday 23 April.

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For further details contact Mr Neil Roberts, Director of Patient Services, would be delighted to discuss any aspects of the job and can be contacted on 01-891 4000.

Job description and further details are available from: Pat Allwright, Personnel Assistant on ext 4504. Applications in the form of a CV with two referees should reach the General Manager by 17th April.

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USE YOUR CREDIT CARD

The Times county-by-county guide to the 1990 cricket season

DERBYSHIRE



Captain: K J Barnett.
1989: NatWest Trophy: first round; Benson and Hedges Cup: failed to reach quarter-finals.
Arrivals: A Brown, A Kuiper, G Miller, Dapartures: M Boersma, D Haddock, M A Holding, P G Newman, I Redpath, R Sharma, M L Walkerfield.
1990 staff: K J Barnett, C J Adams, S J Bass, I R Bishop, P D Smith, A J Smith, S C Goldsmith, F A Griffith, M J Jones, J K Krikken, A Kuiper, B J M Maher, D E Malcott, G Miller, J E Morris, O H Morris, T J G O'Brien, B Roberts, A E Wainwright.
Players ineligible for England: K J Barnett, S J Bass, I R Bishop, S C Goldsmith, A Kuiper.

IN AS much as they have the most ideal opening attack in the country, Derbyshire, theoretically will not have a better chance of winning the championship for the first time since 1936. The reality may be rather different if Devon Malcolm and Ian Bishop are exhausted by the rigours of the winter. It may well be that Adrian Kuiper, the acquisition from South Africa, will make a greater impact, especially in the one-day game. Realistically, it is at this which Derbyshire will be looking to excel. They will be without three familiar names in Michael Holding, Paul Newman and Reg Sharma, and have somewhat surprisingly resigned Geoff Miller, who will be 38 this season. He will at least give greater balance to what has been a one-dimensional attack. Kim Barnett continues as captain and John Morris becomes his vice-captain in place of Holding.

ESSEX



Captain: G A Gooch.
1989: NatWest Trophy: first round; Benson and Hedges Cup: first round.
Arrivals: S J Wainwright, A G J Fraser, J B Lewis, C Miller, P Smith, Dapartures: A K Golding, K Laver, G Miller.
1990 staff: G A Gooch, S J Wainwright, J P Boden, K A Butler, J H Chiles, D E East, K W R Fletcher, A Foster, A G J Fraser, M A Gurnham, B R Harries, N Hussain, M C Kent, M V Lloyd, J J S Lewis, A W Liley, C Miller, P J Pichard, D R Pringle, A C Seymour, Madsen Smith, J P Thompson, P Smith, K E Thompson, T D Topley, A Van Lint, M E Waugh.
Players ineligible for England: N A Foster, E Wainwright.

SO STUNNING were Essex by having 25 points deducted for poor pitch preparation at Southend, and hence not winning the championship, that they have spent considerable time and money during the winter ensuring there will be no repeat. They have taken on the groundstaff and will test the square when they play a second XI match there in May. Constantly keen to acquire players who may not have succeeded elsewhere, they have replaced Geoff Miller and Colin Rees (whose registration they hold jointly with Cambridge) with Steve Andrew, Alastair Fraser and Peter Such. The attack, of course, will be immeasurably strengthened by Neil Foster having become ineligible for England through playing in South Africa. That alone is sufficient reason for backing Essex once again to win an important trophy; it is hard not to see them succeeding. Nasser Hussain and John Stephenson are now established as batsmen and there will be healthy competition between the two wicket-keepers. David East, who has recovered from a finger injury, and Mike Garnham.

GLAMORGAN



Captain: A R Butcher.
1989: NatWest Trophy: second round; Benson and Hedges Cup: failed to qualify for quarter-finals.
Arrivals: H Anthony, N G Cowley, M Frost, R Pook.
Departures: R C O'Connell, 1990 staff: A R Butcher, H Anthony, S R Barwick, S Bustin, M J Camm, P A Conley, N G Cowley, R D Croft, A G Gooch, S J Gifford, M J Gifford, G Holmes, S P Jones, M P Maynard, P Metcalf, H Morris, I A Richards, M C Roberts, I Smith, K Somers, S L Walsh.
Players ineligible for England: H Anthony, M J Camm, N G Cowley, G C Holmes, M P Maynard.

QUITE how much cricket Vivian Richards will play for Glamorgan this summer depends on a number of factors. He has at least made two contributions already: membership has been boosted in anticipation of his arrival and he has introduced to the club a young fast bowler from the Leeward Islands, Hamish Anthony. Those two apart, Glamorgan's hopes of leveraging themselves off the bottom of the table will once again depend on Watkin and Barwick, who took 150 championship wickets between them last season. As to the batsmen, Rodney Ontong has sadly not recovered from a knee injury following his car accident. Alan Butcher, who has the unenviable task of captaining the side, was admirably consistent last year; not so Matthew Maynard who, in spite of playing in all their championship matches, did not record a 1,000 championship runs. Glamorgan also finished bottom of the Refuge Assurance League table. Even if Richards plays only sporadically this season, they should at least improve on that.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Captain: A J Wright.
1989: NatWest Trophy: second round; Benson and Hedges Cup: quarter-finals.
Arrivals: S Barnes, D Hodgson, E Milburn, N Pritchard.
Departures: Y S Green.

1989 staff: A J Wright, M W Atkinson, C W Bailey, P J Boucher, M G J Ball, A S Graveney, D Hodgson, K B S Jarvis, D V Lawrence, J W Lloyd, E Milburn, M Pooty, M Pritchard, C O Ricketts, P W Romaine, R C Russell, O C K Smith, A W Stovold, G A Tisdale, C A Walsh.
Players ineligible for England: C W Bailey, M G J Ball, M Pooty, C A Walsh.

BE HE running a pig farm, the South African sports office or his own vineyard, Eddie Barlow is nothing if not ebullient. He brings now to Gloucestershire his infectious enthusiasm, and well they need it. As soon as he arrived in Bristol in February, Barlow was analysing exactly where they had gone wrong in recent years. They were some way from playing to their full potential, he reckoned. It will be three years before his South African wine is drinkable, and it may well take the same length of time — the length, incidentally, of his contract — for Gloucestershire to improve significantly. At least Tony Wright, their third captain in three years, will have a settled side in that David Lawrence, David Graveney and Courtney Walsh have signed new contracts. The younger players have impressed Barlow during net practice — and rest assured that they will be given their chance if the more established individuals do not perform better than of late.

HAMPSHIRE



Captain: M C J Nicholas.
1989: NatWest Trophy: semi-finals; Benson and Hedges Cup: failed to reach quarter-finals.
Arrivals: D P J Flint, D I Gower, L A Jones.
Departures: S J Wainwright, N G Cowley, S T Jefferson, M T Tremlett, D R Turner, D J Gifford, J H Ayring, A N Ayres, P J Baker, C A Connor, R M O'Connell, D P J Flint, D I Gower, K D James, L A Joseph, M D Marshall, R J Scott, C L Smith, R A Smith, P T Topley, R Wood.
Players ineligible for England: P J Baker, R M O'Connell, L A Joseph, M D Marshall.

WATCHING Hampshire this season should be a joy, especially in one-day cricket. David Gower's first season will be the last for Malcolm Marshall, and just as it goes without saying that membership has risen, so it does that they will not have a better chance of winning the championship. Gower's cricket, which was never the game of the Midlands, should be re-invented. He will begin the season batting at No. 3 in a formidable line-up. David Turner has retired and Nicholas himself contracted malaria while captaining England A in Zimbabwe and may not be available for Hampshire's first matches, but in Julian Wood they have the most promising replacement. Lincoln Joseph, aged 21, a fast bowler from Guyana, who should develop into an all-rounder, joins Hampshire on Marshall's recommendation. Jon Ayring, who has had a dreadful time with cheekbone and knee injuries, should be reasonably fit after missing all of last season. He will provide valuable support for Marshall and Paul Baker.

KENT



Captain: G S Cowdrey.
1989: NatWest Trophy: second round; Benson and Hedges Cup: semi-finals.
Arrivals: G Kersley, N Long, A T Merrick, M Patel, P S de Villiers.
Departures: H L Ayring, P Farbrace, D Harman, D J Salina.
1990 staff: G S Cowdrey, M R Benson, G R Cowdrey, R P Davis, M C Dobson, M A Ealham, R M Ellison, M V Fleming, S G Hinks, A P Isgood, D J M Kelleher, G Kersley, N Long, J Longley, S A Marsh, T A Morris, M Patel, C Parn, M Taylor, P S de Villiers, T R Ward, V J Wells.
Players ineligible for England: G S Cowdrey, R M Ellison, T A Merrick, P S de Villiers.

AS THEY have shown in the last two seasons, Kent are the least predictable of counties. Having plummeted from the heights they touched in 1988 and displaced their chief executive, Jim Woodhouse, they have rested their hopes in two new fast bowlers. Tony Merrick joins them on a two-year contract from Warwickshire and Petrus "Fanie" de Villiers for one year from South Africa. It is hoped that both will prove to be more durable than Hazelley. Alwyn Cowdrey feels Kent have a stronger

WHERE THEY FINISHED IN 1989

Britannic Assurance County championship									
Worce	Essex	Middle	Lancas	Norths	Derby	Warwick	Glouce	Sussex	Somerset
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worce (1)	Essex (2)	Middle (3)	Lancas (4)	Norths (5)	Derby (6)	Warwick (7)	Glouce (8)	Sussex (9)	Somerset (10)
22 12 3 7 44 83 319	22 13 2 7 59 71 313	22 13 2 11 50 72 285	22 8 5 9 57 65 280	22 7 8 7 47 83 222	22 6 8 10 45 76 218	22 5 4 13 44 76 207	22 6 11 5 38 70 204	22 4 14 10 58 182	22 4 7 11 50 89 183
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worce (1)	Essex (2)	Middle (3)	Lancas (4)	Norths (5)	Derby (6)	Warwick (7)	Glouce (8)	Sussex (9)	Somerset (10)
22 12 3 7 44 83 319	22 13 2 7 59 71 313	22 13 2 11 50 72 285	22 8 5 9 57 65 280	22 7 8 7 47 83 222	22 6 8 10 45 76 218	22 5 4 13 44 76 207	22 6 11 5 38 70 204	22 4 14 10 58 182	22 4 7 11 50 89 183

Warwickshire total includes eight points for winning the county in a drawn match. Essex and Nottinghamshire were each penalized 25 points for having sub-standard pitches at Southend and Trent Bridge respectively.

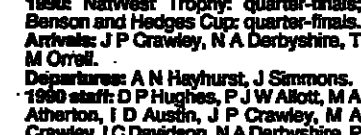
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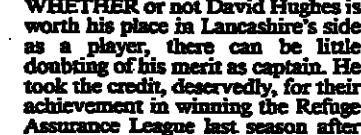
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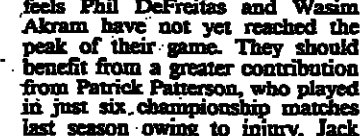
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MIDDLESEX



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



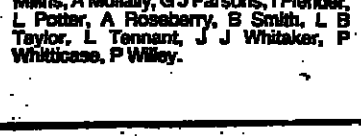
SOMERSET



SUSSEX



WARWICKSHIRE



1990 BETTING

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: 7-2 Worcestershire; 5-1 Essex; 9-2 Middlesex; 8-1 Hampshire; Lancashire; 10-1 Nottinghamshire; 12-1 Northamptonshire; Surrey; 20-1 Gloucestershire; 25-1 Derbyshire; Warwickshire; 30-1 Kent; Leicestershire; 40-1 Sussex; Yorkshire; 50-1 Somerset; 100-1 Glamorgan.									
Worce	Essex	Middle	Lancas	Norths	Derby	Warwick	Glouce	Sussex	Somerset
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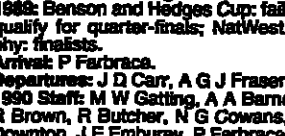
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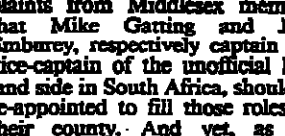
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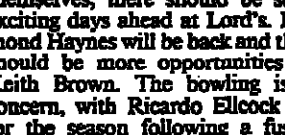
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



SOMERSET



SUSSEX



WARWICKSHIRE



1990 BETTING

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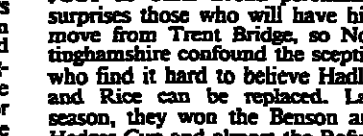
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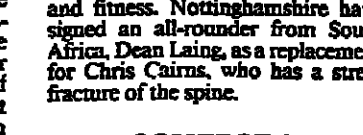
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



SOMERSET



SUSSEX



WARWICKSHIRE



1990 BETTING

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: 7-2 Worcestershire; 5-1 Essex; 9-2 Middlesex; 8-1 Hampshire; Lancashire; 10-1 Nottinghamshire; 12-1 Northamptonshire; Surrey; 20-1 Gloucestershire; 25-1 Derbyshire; Warwickshire; 30-1 Kent; Leicestershire; 40-1 Sussex; Yorkshire; 50-1 Somerset; 100-1 Glamorgan.									
Worce	Essex	Middle	Lancas	Norths	Derby	Warwick	Glouce	Sussex	Somerset
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worce (1)	Essex (2)	Middle (3)	Lancas (4)	Norths (5)	Derby (6)	Warwick (7)	Glouce (8)	Sussex (9)	Somerset (10)
22 12 3 7 44 83 319	22 13 2 7 59 71 313	22 13 2 11 50 72 285	22 8 5 9 57 65 280	22 7 8 7 47 83 222	22 6 8 10 45 76 218	22 5 4 13 44 76 207	22 6 11 5 38 70 204	22 4 14 10 58 182	22 4 7 11 50 89 183

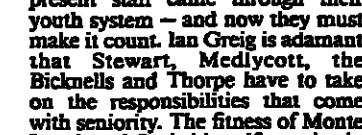
Warwickshire total includes eight points for winning the county in a drawn match. Essex and Nottinghamshire were each penalized 25 points for having sub-standard pitches at Southend and Trent Bridge respectively.

NAT WEST TROPHY: Middlesex beat Hampshire; Warwickshire beat Worcestershire. Final (at Lord's): Warwickshire beat Middlesex by four wickets.

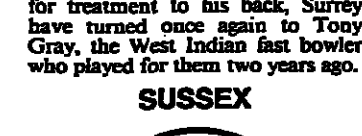
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IT IS the challenge of participating in county cricket, something he never experienced as a player, which has brought Bobby Simpson to Leicestershire from Australia. It need hardly be said after what happened last summer that his reputation as a coach goes before him. Having plotted David Gower's Test demise, he tried to persuade him to remain with the county, but to no avail. He left Leicestershire scant time to find a replacement. Simpson's task is to energize Leicestershire under their new captain, Nigel Briers. That they have the talent there is no doubting; neither is there any disputing that they have not made the most of it. They should at least have some better pitches after re-surfacing their square during the winter. They have done so to try to gain some pace, which will favour an attack of Jon Agnew, Winston Benjamin and Chris Lewis. Of the batsmen, James Whitaker remains, presumably contented since he has accepted the vice-captaincy, but Potter, Boon and Willey, now in his 25th season of first-class cricket, will have to contribute more. Of the absence of Gower is to be overcome.

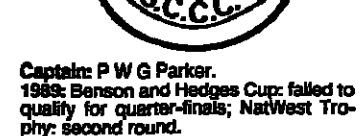
MIDDLESEX



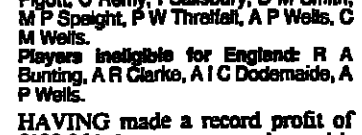
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



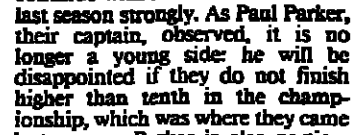
SOMERSET



SUSSEX



WARWICKSHIRE



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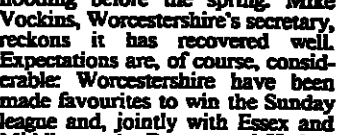
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MIDDLESEX



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

YACHTING

Cape Town rejected as a port of call for next Whitbread

From Barry Pickthall, Fort Lauderdale

WHITBREAD sowed the seeds yesterday for exciting changes to the next Round the World Race for fully crewed yachts when Tim Thwaites, managing director of the company's retail division, confirmed at a briefing here that the next race, the sixth to bear the sponsor's name, will be run during the winter of 1992-93.

"There are reports that this race has generated more than \$200 million," Thwaites said. "That, I believe, is a conservative figure but it is certain to be so for the next race. We believe it will be bigger than the America's Cup because it lasts for nine months and all the yachts are mentioned throughout."

While a replacement has not yet been announced for Rear Admiral Charles Williams, who retires in June after presiding over the races for the past 12 years, Whitbread is already holding discussions with potential sub-sponsors and ports to offset half of the race's \$27 million management and promotional expenses.

Discounting Cape Town, the traditional "Taverner of the Seas" for sailors heading down into the Southern Ocean, as a port of call, Thwaites said: "It is unlikely that the route of the race will differ significantly from the present one. Much as we would like to return to Cape Town, we judge that international opinion will not accept this by the time a decision has to be taken."

The company is also concerned about possible legislation, particularly in New Zealand, that could bar yachts sponsored by tobacco com-

panies. "The present race has four such entries and we will take all reasonable steps to safeguard their interests," Thwaites said.

While the ports will be decided only after Whitbread and the Royal Naval Sailing Association (RNSA), the race administrators, who took very much of a back seat during yesterday's conference, have given careful consideration to the commercial, sailing and safety aspects.

"Our responsibilities are now threefold - to promote exciting ocean racing at its safest and best for competitors; to provide a high profile and well-organized event for sponsors; and to provide the input to enable the media to obtain the most out of the race," Thwaites said.

Safety remains a foremost priority, Whitbread, who are one of the principal sponsors backing The Times/RORC Safety at Sea committee, which developed the RDF location device that saved two lives in the present race, announced that they were to promote further research and development.

"We are concerned that safety equipment has not always functioned effectively and will be seeking to stimulate research to improve safety for competitors as well as developing new equipment for everyday sailors," Thwaites said.

The initiative that generated most discussion however, was Whitbread's announcement that they would sponsor a series of

design seminars to produce new restricted class rules for 60 and 80 foot yachts to replace the existing IOR designs. The first meeting will take place between skippers in Fort Lauderdale on May 2, followed by a development conference involving many of the world's top designers in June.

"We can confirm that there will be a class for existing IOR maxis in the next race but we do not rule out the prospect of 60 and 80 foot restricted classes too," confirmed David Pritchard-Barrett, Whitbread's executive race chairman.

"We will discuss the possibility of producing a totally new rule by seeing what can be achieved with a modified version of existing rules." Pritchard-Barrett, who has taken over responsibility for developing these two proposed Whitbread classes, said yesterday that designers will be steered by three criteria: one, safety; two, speed; three, a limit to the escalating building cost.

It has not been lost on Whitbread and this year's competitors that the French solo yachtsman, Titouan Lamazou, sailing a 60-foot yacht, won the recent Globe Challenge in 109 days, beating the existing Whitbread record set by Pierre Fehlmann's 80-foot maxi UBS Switzerland by 10 days.

Even the flying New Zealand ketches of Peter Blake and Grant Dalton, which carry 16 professional crew, can manage to average only a one-knot increase over Lamazou's 10-knot average.

Even revolution cannot stop a triathlon that sets a Himalayan endurance test



A mountain to climb: Bernard Shroobree sets out on a 60km cycle ride after swimming across Lake Phewa in the Annapurna triathlon

Shroobree crowned the mountain king

From Ian Sweet Pokhara, Nepal

EVEN a revolution did not stop the inaugural Annapurna triathlon in Nepal. However, it did force the race organizers to revise the route of both the bike and run sections, which were blocked by armed police.

The new course of a 1.5km (0.93 miles) swim, 60km (37.28 miles) mountain bike ride, and final 21km (13.05 miles) run, was shorter in distance, but it was no less of a challenge for the competitors, who were few in numbers because of the travel restrictions.

Indeed, the pre-race favourite, the Royal Marine, Bernard Shroobree, and I were caught up in the riots of Kathmandu and reached the event by catching the first aircraft out of the

despoiled city to Pokhara - not the best of preparations for this extremely tough endurance race.

The triathlon turned out to be a challenge between Shroobree and a combined team of three Nepalese athletes. They were each to complete one of the three disciplines, while Shroobree undertook the total distance of the swim, bike and run.

One other individual competitor, the organizer, Jan Turner, finished the triathlon, which included the Gurkha, Santosh Gurung, who finished well in the recent Everest marathon, were also in the race.

At 7am, the competitors entered the cool, but somewhat murky, waters of Lake Phewa, beneath the Annapurnas, which included Machhapuchhare (Sir Edmund Hillary persuaded the Nepalese government to keep at

least one peak of the Himalayas a no-go area to the ever-increasing number of climbers; the Fishtail, or Machhapuchhare, at 6,993 metres (22,943 feet) has never been, and will never be, conquered, as it is now a national monument and afforded total protection.

Shroobree emerged from the lake after 20 minutes looking rather green, hoping he had not swallowed any of the water, which is supposed to be rife with diptheria.

A quick change of clothing, rinsing of mouth and hair, cycle shoes on, and he was off on the special track-racing mountain bike. The next 30km (18.6 miles) were all uphill, through Naudanda to the summit of Sarangkot. This was true mountain-bike terrain and extremely tiring, with upper body fatigue

made worse by the constant jarring caused by the rough surface.

Shroobree reached Sarangkot in 2hr 11min. Shroobree, with the other competitors well in his wake, the return journey to Pokhara took the 32min 19sec, giving a total bike time of 3hr 43min 28sec. On a good road surface, this would normally take well under half the time, with much less effort.

The final 12km (7.45 miles), run in temperatures well over 100 Fahrenheit (38 Celsius), was a return trip to Sarangkot, but this time by the direct route up its face: a very severe climb with three points of contact a necessity at many places.

As in the bike section, Gurung and Krishna Giri were allowed to start with Shroobree. Their local knowledge of terrain helped him find the best route up the 3,000 feet ascent.

A mistaken feed station location meant that Shroobree was stoned and jeered at by local inhabitants for making water without being able to pay. His first 1hr 38min 51sec run was beaten only by Gurung by a mere 28 seconds, although Gurung had not competed in either the swim or bike.

Shroobree completed the whole course in 5hr 43min (5sec), which was well over three hours quicker than both teams and Turner who finished in 9hr 18min 17sec.

The competitors' evening festivities were accompanied by the local people, who were celebrating a victory of a different kind in their fight for democracy and free elections.

REAL TENNIS

Davies has only Deuchar to fear

By Sally Jones

THE Conrad Construction world tournament, the main event of the season, starts today at Moreton Morell and Leamington Spa with most of the world's top players in action.

Wayne Davies, the world champion and New York-based professional, who has recently recovered from a recurring knee injury, is favourite for the title, but should face tough opposition in the final from his fellow-Australian, Lachlan Deuchar, the British Open champion.

The match should provide useful pointers to the outcome of Deuchar's world championship challenge on Davies at the end of the year. The other main contenders include Chris Ronaldson, the former world champion, and Julian Snow, the Scottish Open finalist, plus Paul Tabley and Mike Hapell, the up-and-coming Australians, and Chris Bray, the in-form Perthshire professional. Kevin Sheldon, Andrew Davis and

Mark Devine, the local professional, will also benefit from home court advantage.

The singles is divided into six round-robin groups which promise some outstanding matches before the quarter-finals.

The chief absentee from the world invitation singles is Penny Fellows, the world champion, but several of the rising stars will be on show, including Alison Cockcroft, from Yorkshire, and Alice Bartlett, the American No. 1, a former world tennis circuit player and tennis coach to King Hussein of Jordan.

Sally Jones and Alex Warren-Piper, the British Open finalists and world doubles champions, are seeded to meet in the singles final and are also favourite to take the doubles.

Unusually for a real tennis event, the tournament features corporate hospitality, a variety of TV coverage and a sell-out for the finals weekend on April 28 and 29.

ICE HOCKEY

Lack of discipline may cost Fife Flyers dear

By Norman de Mesquita

FIFE Flyers sprang the surprise of the season, winning 6-1 at Murrayfield, to qualify for next weekend's Heineken championships at Wembley.

But an ill-disciplined performance at Durham on Sunday could see them having to play at Wembley without Neil Abel, one of their most experienced British players, and without Rab Petrie, their coach.

Abel earned a match penalty for fighting, but then had a gross misconduct penalty added for taking a swing at a linesman.

Petrie complained so long and bitterly that he was ejected from the game and, eventually, from the stadium.

The Fife club has lodged an appeal against the penalties and there will be a disciplinary hearing as soon as the necessary evidence has been gathered.

Nottingham Panthers' two

weekend games also featured some fine goalkeeping. In Cardiff on Saturday, David Graham had his best game of the season. And, in Solihull on Sunday, Danny Thompson, who is only 16, was outstanding.

Cleveland Bombers will be back in the premier division next season after a three-year absence. They secured their promotion with an emphatic win over Midway Bears on Sunday, to finish one point ahead of Slough Jets in the round-robin competition.

RESULTS: Heineken Championships: Quarter-finals: Murrayfield Racers 4, Fife Flyers 2; Dundee Devils 4, Nottingham Panthers 1; Durham Wasps 10, Fife Flyers 2; Solihull Bears 6, Nottingham Panthers 1. First division: Slough Jets 10, Humberstone 8; Slough Jets 10, Humberstone 8; Slough Jets 10, Humberstone 8.

Not on coupon: Chester v Transvaal (Friday); FOURTH DIVISION: X Ayrshire v Scarborough; X Slough Jets v Slough Jets; X Slough Jets v Slough Jets; X Slough Jets v Slough Jets.

Not on coupon: South-east v Slough Jets; Slough Jets v Slough Jets; Slough Jets v Slough Jets; Slough Jets v Slough Jets.

HOME: Crystal Palace, Sheffield United, Sunderland, Swindon, Notts County, Lincoln, Peterborough, Celtic, Clydebank, Falkirk, Hamilton, St Johnstone, Motherwell, Aberdeen, Villa, Liverpool, Celtic, Hamilton, St Johnstone, Ayr, Arsenal, Blackburn, Exeter, Doncaster, York, Arsenal, Doncaster.

PGA falls to Player in the rain

PALM Beach Gardens, Florida (AP) - Gary Player survived rain delays and a late double-bogey to win the US PGA seniors championship for the third time in the last five years here on Sunday.

The South African, aged 54, shrugged off atrocious conditions and the challenges of the Americans, Lee Trevino and Jack Nicklaus, to score a final round of 73 and win by two strokes with a seven under par total of 281.

However, though Player led the field by as many as six shots during the final day, his victory was anything but straightforward. Storms held up his progress for more than two hours, and by the time he strode up the final fairway, the black-clad leader was almost invisible as night, and the rain, fell. At one point, it seemed as if none of the players would be able to play until the following day.

Yet, with Player three holes from the finish, the inclement weather abated, and he was able to continue. He led by four strokes at the point, but at the 16th, he found the pond by the green, dropped two shots and saw his lead cut in half. Fortunately for him, neither Nicklaus nor Trevino could capitalize on the error, and Player's lead was back to three strokes at the 18th hole. He finished with a 74, three over par, as his putting took desert him, and finished five strokes behind Trevino, who won the MCI Heritage Classic (a Special Correspondent writes).

Second place went to Chi Chi Rodriguez, who started the final round nine shots behind, two back to have any real hope of overtaking the leader, but came on with a 66, the best round of the day, to claim a four round score of 283.

LEADING FINAL SCORES (US unless stated): 281: G Player (SA), 74, 68, 65, 73, 283: C Rodriguez (CU), 74, 73, 68, 66, 284: J Nicklaus (US), 74, 73, 68, 67, 70, 71, 285: G Trevino (US), 72, 72, 72, 72, 286: M Slater (US), 74, 73, 68, 67, 71, 73, 74, 75, 286: A Keller (US), 77, 77, 74, 73, 286: H Harrison (USA), 74, 68, 61, 72, 1: G Graham, 76, 75, 72, 72.

Faldo struggled to a 74, three over par, as his putting took desert him, and finished five strokes behind Trevino, who won the MCI Heritage Classic (a Special Correspondent writes).

Norman missed the play-off

European case on US Tour is supported by Stockton

By Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent

DAVE Stockton, the new United States Ryder Cup captain, yesterday supported the European case for the US PGA Tour to relax the membership regulations for non-American golfers.

A group of leading European golfers, led by Nick Faldo, the Masters champion, and Severiano Ballesteros, campaigned last year for the number of players in which they were required to play as full members to be reduced from 15 to 12.

Deane Beman, the US Tour commissioner, put the proposal to the policy board, but he said: "It literally died on the vase."

Stockton, however, believes every attempt should be made to breach the divide between the two sides. "I think the Europeans should be entitled to play," Stockton said. "Everyone is making an issue of it and none of the players want that. It is important that there should be no barriers between the American and the European tours."

"I cannot understand why this situation exists. We should be talking together as much as possible."

Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson, two veterans who could yet be in Stockton's team for the match against Europe at Kiawah Island, South Carolina, on September 26 to 29 next year, have already voiced the opinion that the European proposal should have been adopted.

"Deane says rules are rules

and you cannot let anyone cherry pick," Nicklaus said. "What does cherry pick mean? Look, I've picked where I've wanted to play for years. I don't understand it. It's so short-sighted."

Meanwhile, Mark McCormack in *World of Professional Golf 1990* (Sackville Books, £16.95), which is published this week, writes: "Beman says the absence of these stars is 'no big deal' but it's doubtful that tournament sponsors or television audiences would see it that way."

"The irony of the situation is that because the world's best golfers will now have fewer opportunities to all compete in the same tournaments, those in which they do compete - the four major championships, which the PGA Tour does not want to be even more important."

Most certainly it backed up Beman that Sandy Lyle was the only European to compete in the Players Championship last month. The event has in the past been consistently spoken of as a potential fifth major championship.

"It must be noted that the opposition to a more reasonable change for the non-American players came not from the top level but from the rank-and-file of the PGA Tour. It's unfortunate that, in an instance such as this, the majority rules to the detriment of golf, for they are

jeopardizing the appeal and the stature of the PGA Tour," McCormack said.

"Once a player wins a major championship, he should be entitled to special privileges and the more majors won, the more privileges, but the majority will never see it that way."

What does concern me is that a player such as Tom Kite, who is not among the rank and file, still insists that The Players Championship has a stronger field than major championships. "The majors are a different deal because they have such a small select field," Kite said. "The Players Championship still has a stronger field than any major championship will have. It may be that the Open will have everyone this year but that is because it is at St Andrews."

Kite is either unaware or chooses to be unaware that the leading 25 golfers in the Sony world rankings competed in the Masters and that the Bay Hill Classic had a stronger field than The Players Championship.

The optimum solution would be to give the winners of major championships a three-year exemption from the non-American players who are compelled to play in 15 US Tour events. That would enable the US Tour to keep a tight control regarding numbers as opposed to lifetime exemption being marginally too generous for non-American golfers.

Faldo's putting hits end of the line

HILTON Head Island, South Carolina - Nick Faldo will have to wait for at least another two weeks to replace Greg Norman as the world's top-ranked golfer after hitting birdies on the MCI Heritage Classic (a Special Correspondent writes).

Faldo struggled to a 74, three over par, as his putting took desert him, and finished five strokes behind Trevino, who won the MCI Heritage Classic (a Special Correspondent writes).

Norman missed the play-off

the club reasonably well this week but I never came to grips with the greens."

Payne Stewart won a play-off with Larry Mize and Steve Fehr after hitting birdies on both extra holes, to become the first man to win the tournament in successive years. Stewart began the final round with a two-shot lead and turned in a patient, level-par 71, before winning the tournament with a 30-foot putt.

Norman missed the play-off

Waldgeard, of Sweden, driving a Toyota Celica, overcame exceptionally muddy conditions to win the Kenya Safari rally for the fourth time yesterday.

Juha Karunkinen, of Finland, finished second, 38 minutes behind Waldgeard in a Lancia Delta Integrale and Mikael Ericsson, of Sweden, came in third in another Toyota.

Waldgeard, winner in 1977, 1984 and 1986, said: "It was the toughest rally ever because of the weather. The roads were tougher. There was more mud than ever but, funny enough, there was not as much rain as expected."

Waldgeard has competed 17 times in this six-day 2,480-mile rally, one of the toughest in the world, and plans to return next year. "I would love to come back for another rally. Why not take the record for the most wins?" he said.

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Massimo Biasion, of Italy, driving a Lancia Delta Integrale, was time-barred on Sunday after a con-rod snapped

RIFLE SHOOTING

Bromley hits form to claim the prize

By Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent

SHOOTERS often say that their main preoccupation is competing against themselves, but the most vigorous opponent at the Easter rifle meeting which finished at Biele yesterday was the weather.

Peter Bromley won the grand aggregate by six points after three days, during which most people were saying the weather would be the one who experienced the fewest disasters. A biting and erratic wind turned sighting into a guessing game and penetrated the layers of clothing that can make some shooters look like Michelin Men.

Fingerless gloves and charcoal-burning hand-warmers were in demand because it was not so much a case of "keep your powder dry" as, "keep your trigger finger workable."

Bromley, aged 26, a farmer from Kent with international experience since his schooldays, showed that consistency is the answer even in the most adverse conditions, especially with some long-range skill to go with it. Although he did not win any of the individual events, he took the long-range aggregate when even the best were off-form. This gave him enough to win the grand aggregate for the championship, with 516 out of a possible 555 over the three days. His score was a clear six in front of Richard Chase of Hertfordshire, with former Queens Place winner John Popley of Devon, "counting out" to third.

RESULTS: 15 shots at 600yds: 1, J Popley (Dev) 72 (11 x 10, 2 x 9, 2 x 8, 2 x 7, 2 x 6, 2 x 5, 2 x 4, 2 x 3, 2 x 2, 2 x 1); 2, R Chase (Herts) 72 (11 x 10, 2 x 9, 2 x 8, 2 x 7, 2 x 6, 2 x 5, 2 x 4, 2 x 3, 2 x 2, 2 x 1); 3, P Bromley (Kent) 72 (11 x 10, 2 x 9, 2 x 8, 2 x 7, 2 x 6, 2 x 5, 2 x 4, 2 x 3, 2 x 2, 2 x 1).

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SPORT

England bow to the knockout blow

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Antigua

SCOREBOARD FROM ANTIGUA

England won toss

ENGLAND

First Innings

	Go	4s	6s	Runs	Wickets
W Larkins c Hooper b Ambrose	30	-	3	181	103
A J Stewart c Richards b Walsh	17	-	2	53	43
D J Bailey c Dujon b Bishop	42	-	3	164	101
A J Lamb c Richards b Ambrose	37	-	5	120	69
R A Smith lbw b Walsh	12	-	2	89	43
N Hussain c Dujon b Bishop	35	-	3	163	87
D J Capel c Hooper b Bishop	10	-	1	16	16
P C Russell c Dujon b Bishop	7	-	1	37	34
P DeFreitas lbw b Bishop	12	-	1	22	20
G C Small lbw b Walsh	12	-	1	22	20
D E Malcolm not out	31	-	-	-	-
Extras (b 5, lb 11, nb 15)	31	-	-	-	-
Total (51.1 overs)	260	-	-	-	-

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-101, 3-143, 4-167, 5-187, 6-195, 7-212, 8-242, 9-258.
BOWLING: Bishop 28.1-5-54-5; Ambrose 29.5-7-2-4 (nb 4); Walsh 21-4-51-3 (nb 5); Baptiste 13-4-30-0 (nb 5).

Second Innings

	Go	4s	6s	Runs	Wickets
A J Stewart c Richardson b Bishop	8	-	1	41	29
W Larkins b Ambrose	14	-	1	19	14
G C Small b Ambrose	8	-	-	19	14
R J Bailey c Dujon b Bishop	35	-	5	98	59
A J Lamb b Baptiste	1	-	-	5	31
A Smith retired hurt	15	-	1	38	31
N Hussain c Dujon b Bishop	25	-	1	63	38
D J Capel run out	9	-	-	51	23
P C Russell c Richardson b Ambrose	24	-	1	28	30
P DeFreitas c Greenidge b Ambrose	0	-	-	3	3
D E Malcolm not out	21	-	-	24	11
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 1, nb 11)	18	-	-	-	-
Total	154	-	-	-	-

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-20, 3-33, 4-37, 5-68, 6-84, 7-148, 8-148, 9-154.
BOWLING: Bishop 14-2-35-3 (1 w); Ambrose 13-7-22-4 (1 nb); Walsh 10-1-40-8 (nb); Baptiste 10-1-47-1 (nb 5).

WEST INDIES

First Innings

	Go	4s	6s	Runs	Wickets
G C Greenidge run out (Smith)	149	3	18	380	207
D L Haynes c Russell b Small	107	1	24	243	317
R B Richardson c Russell b Malcolm	54	-	5	64	62
C L Hooper b Capel	1	-	-	5	8
V V Richards c Dujon b Malcolm	1	-	-	5	8
A L Lisle c Lamb b DeFreitas	15	-	1	38	31
J P J L Dujon run out (Bailey)	25	-	1	63	38
E A E Baptiste c Russell b Malcolm	9	-	-	51	23
O J Ambrose c DeFreitas b Capel	8	-	-	30	13
R Bishop not out	14	-	1	56	36
C A Walsh b Malcolm	8	-	1	28	15
Extras (b 5, nb 13)	18	-	-	-	-
Total (120.5 overs)	446	-	-	-	-

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-258, 2-357, 3-358, 4-359, 5-382, 6-384, 7-415, 8-417, 9-433.
BOWLING: Small 31-3-125-1; Malcolm 34.5-3-125-4 (4 nb); Capel 28-1-118-2 (nb 5); DeFreitas 27-4-74-1 (nb 5); D L Haynes.

Umpires: D Archer and A Weekes.

West Indies won by an innings and 32 runs.

Ten minutes before tea yesterday, West Indies completed the recovery of a champion boxer who has been felled in the first round and almost counted out in the second. Their knockout blow was as swift and irresistible as ever but England, beaten by an innings and 32 runs, still had reason to feel pride amid their disappointment.

If anyone dared to doubt the tenacity of players whose dreams were fast expiring, they had only to look at Robin Smith. Rather than stand aside as this series was unjustly lost, he insisted on batting with a broken finger.

It was heroism in vain in this final Cable and Wireless Test match. Two more blows on the same finger brought waves of nausea along with the pain and a disconsolate Smith was led away by one of the few men who had shared his secret, Laurie Brown, the England physiotherapist.

England continued their decline towards a second lost Test match in the space of a week but Smith's bravery was the embodiment of their spirit on this wildly fluctuating tour. Obsessively intent that the entitlement of a drawn series should not be taken from him, Smith risked further, more serious injury. In terms of runs alone, his Test aggregate of 186 is unremarkable but when you know that he has occupied the crease for more than 16 hours for that tour, you know England have a rare spirit in their midst.

Smith has learned much from his fellow South African and present captain, Allan Lamb, and it was when his wicket fell, soon after lunch, that this match was destined for a four-day finish.

Lamb had deliberately launched a counter-attack, the only possible way out of the ambush, when Baptiste slid the perfect inswinger through his defences. It was Baptiste's first Test wicket for six years, and appropriately, it was an Antiguan who put the match beyond recall.

Only incurable optimists can have held out much hope for England when play resumed. They were 170 behind with a prime wicket already gone. Two days remained to salvage something from months of hard labour. The pitch remained blameless but the West Indian bowlers were fresh. It was not a contest on which to have a bet.

Bishop and Ambrose began with an over each of wide and innocuous looseballs. Nobody was fooled. Bishop moved up a gear and Stewart, firmly on the back foot and looking to force the ball through the offside, was surprised by extra bounce as he merely scooped it to Richardson at cover.

Stewart was right to look forlorn. This had represented his chance to establish his credentials with a substantial innings. His failure means

that he returns home today as one of several who cannot be confident about their short-term England prospects.

Another in the same category is Bailey. No one has emerged from this tour mentally shell-shocked by pace, as some did in 1986, but Bailey has come closest. He has rescued his tour from complete failure but the theory of bringing him ahead of a third opener has been shown up for the mistake it undoubtedly was.

Yesterday, he had an extraordinary reprieve and wasted it. With the total 33, Bishop produced a beauty, lifting from off-stump line and taking an involuntary edge. It was a straightforward catch which the village Second XI wicketkeeper would have been mortified to drop. Dujon, whose series this has demonstrably not been, dropped it.

The next ball was shorter, wider, and could wisely have been ignored. Bailey, drawn to it against all his judgements, flicked an instinctive bat and Dujon gratefully redeemed himself.

Lamb cut his first ball for four, advertising a positive approach which suits him best. He, too, need some luck against Bishop, Greenidge

putting down a sharp, left-handed catch at third slip, but he led England to lunch with the heartbeat still discernable.

Small, the nightwatchman, had gone, covering up against Ambrose and seeing the ball drop onto the stumps off his arm. Far more crucially, Smith had given up his valiant battle. Walsh, who had broken his finger on the opening day, found the lift to hit him again and again on the bottom hand, until Lamb walked down the pitch to advise his partner he had suffered enough.

The England management had kept the x-ray results confidential, just as they had when Gooch's hand was broken in Trinidad. Brown admitted that he was professionally unhappy about patching up a patently unfit player, but that Smith had insisted on it.

Lamb had been wasting as much time as possible by repeatedly berating the umpires over the level of noise from transistor radios in the crowd. It was actually no louder than at any previous stage in this cacophony of a Test ground but the umpires went along with Lamb's blatant ploy.

A few strokes of high quality took Lamb to 35 before Baptiste defeated him. At 85 for five, effectively for six, the last thing England now needed was a sacrifice but when Hussain rejected a second run for a steer to third man, Capel was stranded in mid-pitch, the run out decisive.

West Indies dropped their fourth catch of the innings when Hooper, at second slip, put down Hussain but the seventh wicket added 54 in just eight overs of breezy strokeplay. It ended when Russell mistimed a forcing stroke against Ambrose. DeFreitas lasted only three balls as Ambrose, the match-winner in Barbados, twisted the knife again.

There is no other sport that demands such dizzying high standards from its practitioners. The news has filled back pages and even front pages. It has prompted talk of Richardson's resignation from the captaincy; the end of a brilliant career. A great man who has stooped to folly must now be left in the silent room with a loaded revolver in the drawer of the desk.

That was roughly the time Leeds secured a victory with their second goal, thereby arresting their recent decline of four games without a win and moving three points clear at the top of the table.

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England's reward is handful of grit

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Antigua
WHY is it, I wonder, that cricketers are expected to have higher moral standards than the people of any other trade with the possible exception of members of the Poor Clare order of nuns? For it seems that the earth has been rocked on its axis because Vivian Richards, captain of West Indies, chose to be offensive to a journalist.

The news has filled back pages and even front pages. It has prompted talk of Richardson's resignation from the captaincy; the end of a brilliant career. A great man who has stooped to folly must now be left in the silent room with a loaded revolver in the drawer of the desk.

That was roughly the time Leeds secured a victory with their second goal, thereby arresting their recent decline of four games without a win and moving three points clear at the top of the table.

Leeds did eventually raise their game somewhat late in the second half, when they added three goals to